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Alex's Bar Mitzvah: finding strength and hope for the future

By Benita Baker

This is a story of hope. It's about a family that had every reason to be angry and bitter. Instead, they embraced Judaism and by doing so they found the strength to go on.

Anna, her mother and her two children moved to Israel from the Former Soviet Union three years ago. Anna, a pediatric surgeon, was happy with life in Russia despite the fact that her husband had died seven years before. It was her daughter, Anya, who wanted to immigrate to Israel and so the family, somewhat reluctantly, traded in their



Alex Kachev with his grandmother (left) and his mother Anna celebrate his Bar Mitzvah in Israel.

old life for a fresh start as Israelis and as Jews.

About a year and a half ago, 16-year-old Anya and

her friends went to a disco at Dolphinarium Beach.

Anya never came home. She was murdered by a suicide bomber that blew himself up in the crowd outside the building.

This past summer Anya's 12-year-old brother Alex found a place in the hearts of local Ottawa couple Dr. David and Miriam Algom when he arrived from Israel as part of a group of teenage victims of terror going to Camp Gasher. The Algoms had spearheaded this effort to take the kids away from the tension, sorrow and fear of daily life in Israel to enjoy a few weeks at summer camp.

Alex, the youngest of the

group, stayed with the Algoms for a few days before going off to camp and in that short time forged an emotional attachment.

This is when the Algoms learned that Alex was not planning to have a Bar Mitzvah.

Back home in Israel, Anna worried about her son and called Miriam Algom several times. The mother and the surrogate mother bonded over the course of these phone calls so that Miriam Algom felt comfortable questioning Anna about the decision regarding Alex's Bar Mitzvah. Anna

(Continued on page 2)

Who is Amram Mitzna?

By Carl Alpert

Haifa — Israel's political leaders are well known in the world. The names of Sharon, Netanyahu, Peres, Ben-Eliezer, Barak, Sharan, even Sarid, Belin, Meridor, and Burg are greeted with a degree of familiarity. But Mitzna? Who is he? Few know the name.

The Labor Party has made its choice. Amram Mitzna, 57, will head its list against the Likud Party in the national election scheduled for January 28, thereby becoming its candidate for Prime Minister. Though he has been mayor of Haifa for

nine years, he has not been a familiar personality in the rest of the country, and is almost unknown overseas. We offer an objective cameo of the man.

The child of German immigrants, Mitzna was raised in a kibbutz, and after his compulsory army service decided to make the military his career. After 30 years in uniform he retired with the rank of major-general, having served as commander of the Israeli forces in the West Bank during the first intifada, and as chief of planning and budgeting for the armed forces, the third highest responsible posi-

tion. During the intifada he was widely criticized for the army's harsh policies, but on the other hand, during the war in Lebanon he publicly proclaimed his lack of confidence in the then Minister of Defense Ariel Sharon and threatened to resign. He became known as a dovish general.

He took time off to study at the Army War College in Carlisle, Pa., and earned an M.A. in political science at Harvard. In 1993 he was elected for a five year term as mayor of Haifa, and re-elected in 1998. Were he to seek a third term there is little doubt that he would overwhelm any possible opponent, receiving the votes of the Russian immigrants, the Arabs, the religious and the great majority of veteran residents.

In his views on the national scene, however, he is unmistakably an advocate

(Continued on page 7)



Teacher Dobra Fischman and students with their letters and art work they are sending to Israeli soldiers.

Torah Academy students show their support for Israel

By Robert Walker

It is urgent that Jewish communities around the world show their active support for Israel at this critical time. Torah Academy's students from grades 4 to 8 have

taken up this challenge in a personal and effective way — each has written a soldier in the Israel army. Their letter writing campaign was in response to Operation Keshet, which seeks to create

bonds of friendship between Israel's young soldiers and students across North America. The motto *Miles Apart but Close of Heart* shows a unity and concern that tran-

(Continued on page 2)

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Torah Academy students show their support for Israel

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scends distance and separation. Never must Israelis feel that they stand alone.

When the students were asked, either as individuals or in groups, why they wrote their letter, the answers were almost unanimous. Everyone spoke of "the need to encourage the soldiers because they faced so many dangers" and "must feel lonely separated from their families and friends." All said that it was important that the soldiers know that "they have friends here in Ottawa and all over the world."

Some students have relatives in Israel, and so the reality of what is happening is vivid. Yehoshua Barak explained that he had been to Israel and he knows about the horrible things that are hap-

pening. "It must be worse for the soldiers," he explained, "because they face those dangers every day." Another student's uncle is a reserve soldier. Shalom Benzaquen quoted his uncle in Israel who said, "If Jews are not safe in Israel, they won't be safe anywhere."

While all students realize the difficulties the soldiers face, their eyes lit up when

they visualized how "happy the soldiers would feel when they knew that so many people around the world cared for them," and thought about them.

It was a time to meet "an unexpected friend," one junior student observed. Others saw their letters as Mitzvot - "giving care and support" to those "who were lonely" and putting "their

lives on the line for the Jewish people." For the students it was a personal time of helping and caring for another.

It was also a time of learning, maturing, and creating. Every letter was written in meticulous Hebrew, without vowels under the supervision of teacher Debra Fischman. Great thought went into using the correct words and proper grammar.

The letters were all attractive, often decorated with brightly coloured pictures. But what will emerge is much more than correct grammar and attractive design. The Israeli soldiers will discover a new friend and a community that cares for their safety and admires their persistent courage and devotion to freedom. And our Torah Academy students

will have the knowledge that they have contributed in their unique way to helping Israel.

Operation Keshet was founded by Fem Roth and Irene Victor. Operation Keshet is located at 355 Brook Avenue, Passaic, N.J., U.S.A. 07055. They can be reached at 973-779-1994 / 973-694-4141 ext. 126. Fax: 973-779-5435

Alex's Bar Mitzvah: finding strength and hope for the future

(Continued from page 1)

was adamant that a Bar Mitzvah was not necessary. Being Jewish had cost the life of her child. Being Jewish caused pain.

Algom implored her to reconsider. "Celebrating a Bar Mitzvah is one of the nicest parts of Judaism,"

she said. "You have suffered being Jewish. You should also experience the delights of Judaism." Then she added a "bribe," not knowing if she could follow through, "If Alex has a Bar Mitzvah, I will come."

Three months later Anna called with good news. Alex had a bris in August and his first aliyah during Rosh Hashanah. His Bar Mitzvah was planned for November 10. Could Miriam come? This was truly *bashert*. Miriam had just completed arrangements for a trip to Israel in November to visit her family.

Over 100 people attended Alex's Bar Mitzvah party. The immigrant family of three had been embraced by their community. The mayor of the town was there. The principal of the school was there. The families of other victims of the disco bombing were there. If it is at all possible to find something positive in this senseless tragedy, it is the support and closeness that these families had come to share.

Anna welcomed her guests with a long and poignant speech that came



Alex attending morning service.

straight from her heart. She spoke in fluent Hebrew, without notes, encouraging the families of victims to look for faith and to look to Judaism for hope. Her wishes for her son were simple. "Be a *mench*. Be well. Be wise. Be successful." When her speech was over, she collapsed. It had taken all the strength of the still grieving mother.

"For them going forward with the Bar Mitzvah was like a watershed," Algom explained. "It was a big turning point from thinking that Judaism can be only a source of agony to something where maybe they can

find strength and hope for the future. I was touched. I was deeply moved for them."

For Alex it was a window into something new. He was understandably proud of his accomplishment. Algom is certain that it was the boy who swayed his mother's attitude towards Judaism. And there

can be no doubt that his experience in Ottawa and at Camp Geshet played a large part in shaping Alex's new found Jewish identity.

Anna and her small family have come to represent the enduring story of Israel. "It is a story of people who don't give up," Miriam Algom explains. "They have a lot to teach us."



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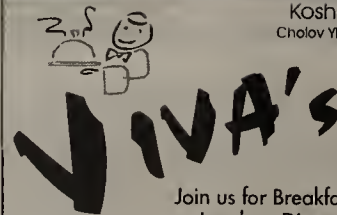
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Ottawa Jewish Bulletin will be published on Monday, January 20, 2003.
The deadline date is Thursday, January 2, 2003.



LIFELINES

One Community. One Commitment.

A Walk for One Community

4,900 walkers, 100 chai walkers needed

Believe it or not, the Aviv Festival is right around the corner. The Walkathon is a highlight of this annual celebration of the Ottawa Jewish community. And, if Butch Zinman, chair of the Walkathon, has his way, this May 25th will be the best Walkathon ever.

"We hope to have the same enthusiasm and spirit that was seen last April on Parliament Hill, when 15,000 community members spoke with one voice in solidarity with Israel," said Zinman.

The theme for this year's walk is *A Walk for One Community*. "We expect 3,000-5,000 walkers to participate, representing all agencies, synagogues, schools and other



The Zinman wants you walking May 25th.

Jewish institutions," said Zinman. There will also be a promotion

focusing on the grandchildren of the community. "I would like to highlight the community's commitment to family, and encourage that this become an intergenerational event with grandparents accompanying their children and grandchildren," explained Zinman.

The Walkathon is only a part of what is sure to be an exciting weekend. The Aviv Festival will feature live entertainment, crafts, activities for the children, and a variety of kosher food. Volunteers are still needed. Please call 798-4696 ext. 246, or email avivfest@jewishottawa.com to get involved.

Up and coming:

Missions to Israel

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led by Steven and Shelli Kimmel

May 4-11
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For more information, please contact Marty Davis,
UJA Director at mdavis@jccottawa.com



Local schools connect with Israel through Partnership 2000

By Gabe Meranda
 "We thought [that] we were alone." These are the heartfelt words of Israeli Ronit Weiss, a school principal from the northern town of Metulla at the conclusion of a four-day visit to Ottawa.

Weiss, whose time in the city represented the latest chapter in a dynamic project called Partnership 2000 (P2K)/Geshet Chai, had many opportunities to see for herself that the Ottawa community stands with Israel.

The P2K/Geshet Chai program began five years ago as a joint venture between the United Israel Appeal Federations Canada, the Jewish Agency for

Israel, and Keren Hayesod. Designed to promote face-to-face exchanges between Diaspora Jews and Israelis, the project had its humble beginnings in 1997, when one school in Canada was twinned with a school in Israel.

Since that time, a number of cities across Canada, including Ottawa, have been twinned with the communities in the *Ezra Ha-Galil* ("Galilee Panhandle") region of Northern Israel. This has enabled the school-twinning program to expand to eleven schools in Canada and twelve schools in Israel. All of this has been instrumental in developing and showcasing the limitless potential of this program.

Currently, P2K has three stated objectives: face-to-face encounters between Canadians and Israelis; to enhance the economic, educational and personal ties; and to share skills and knowledge that benefit both countries.



Hillel Academy hosted Partnership 2000 Israeli educators Dalia Benbaruch (front left) and Ronit Weiss (back, second from left). In December, two Hillel teachers will pay a reciprocal visit to Beit Sefer Hanadiv.

In Ottawa, Weiss and two of her colleagues from Israel, Dalia Benbaruch, an arts teacher, from Kiryat Shmona; and Zevik Glidai, a principal at the Ulpanit in Kiryat Shmona spent time both teaching and learning in the local schools where they were able to meet with educators as well as com-

munity leaders to underscore the similarities between the children in Israel and in Ottawa.

To that end, the Israeli visitors brought with them a copy of a game that was created in Metulla called, "Yesh Li Chag" (I Have a Holiday). The "board" game is unique in that it generally spans the area of an entire classroom. As students are divided up into teams, they compete against each other in an effort to learn about, as well as showcase their knowledge of Jewish holidays and history through songs and questions.

"The kids truly enjoyed having them here," said Doris Bronstein, principal of Hillel Academy. These sentiments were echoed in the halls of the school even several weeks after the visit. "They showed us

where Metulla was on the map and that they are leading a normal life," said grade 6 student Tara Wakter. "They made us see that terrorists wouldn't break their faith and hope, and that Israel is our homeland."

Ingrid Levitz, chair of the local P2K initiative, feels that these opportunities to come together are vital. "The P2K program is about getting to know one another from an education-

al and personal perspective," Levitz explains. "Israeli children can put a face to the Diaspora Jew, and our children connect with their history and tradition. All of this assures our shared Jewish future."

Plans are under way to broaden the scope of the P2K/Geshet Chai programs. Locally, Yitzhak Rabin High School has been involved in the project for three years, sharing key aspects of their curriculum with their twinned school in Israel.

As a result, students at both schools are able to receive a much more comprehensive understanding of life in the other country. Although the students at both schools are in continuous contact with each other via e-mail, new web camera technology will eventually allow the students to "meet" face to face regularly. In addition, there are plans to have students visit one another in Israel in the very near future.

For more information about the Project 2000/Geshet Chai Program, please contact UJA Ottawa (798-4696).

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Successful Sephardic Arts Alive latest triumph for Cantor Benlolo

By Diane Koven

Within weeks of being awarded the Elaine Rabin Social Service Award in recognition of his dedication and commitment to helping others in the community, Cantor Daniel Benlolo scored another triumph. Just when it seemed that the Cantor who does it all had done it all, Benlolo chaired the hugely successful Sephardic Arts Alive at the SJCC, suffusing the annual event with the flavour of the Middle East.

Officially, he is the cantor of Beth Shalom West Congregation, but Benlolo is known throughout Ottawa for his musical and

artistic talent and for his warmth and effervescence. He has brought happiness and good cheer to individuals and groups through the classes he teaches and his many volunteer activities. Friends and "fans" attended the 22nd Annual General Meeting of Jewish Family Services of Ottawa-Carleton (JFS) to see Benlolo receive his well-deserved award, named in honour of Elaine Rabin who served as executive-director of JFS from its inception in 1980 until 1996.

The youngest in a Moroccan family of 12 children who settled in Quebec, Benlolo became cantor of the



Cantor Daniel Benlolo, Israeli Ambassador Haim Olvov and Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey Urban Ogut cut the ribbon as committee members look on during the opening ceremonies of the Sephardic Arts Alive.

(Photo: Sylvia Klein)

Spanish-Portuguese Synagogue in Montreal at the age of 20. He studied Ashkenazic, Yemenite, Syrian and other Sephardic cantorial styles at the Belz school of Jewish Music, an affiliate of Yeshiva University in New York.

Benlolo's ability to blend the various cantorial styles mirrors his ability to blend into any group of people, regardless of age, origin, language or religious affiliation.

When he started his own Bar/Bat Mitzvah preparation school, he made an arrangement to use the chapel at Hillel Lodge where he often entertains residents. In return, he offered to teach seniors at the Lodge so that they, too, could have B'nai Mitzvah. Soon after, he added a Bat Mitzvah class across the street for developmentally challenged residents of Tamir.

Benlolo's genuine affection and respect for each and every human being are, he acknowledges, the legacy of his beloved late mother. "I believe strongly that working with children, the disabled,

the elderly and the disadvantaged has made me grow stronger," he said. "What my late mother instilled in me was the love of people, to make sure that you don't see a difference in people, regardless of where they come from."

Many of Ottawa's predominantly Ashkenazi Jewish community members revelled in the differences at the Sephardic Arts Alive weekend. Benlolo and his committee brought the sights, sounds and taste of Morocco to life right here on Nadolny Sachs Private. Sephardic art, music and foods were enjoyed by all and Benlolo helped to

bridge the gap between the cultures.

Ottawa's Sephardic community came out in full force to celebrate at the Henna Party Ceremony, to participate in the pre-wedding celebration, Moroccan style. For many, it was a touch of "home," while for their Ashkenazi neighbours it represented an opportunity to understand a culture so unlike their own.

Benlolo and his Shira Ottawa Choir performed Sephardic melodies at their concert concluding the Arts Alive weekend.

Through music and genuine good will, Cantor Daniel Benlolo is bringing people together and is enjoying himself immensely along the way.

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Watch this space for further details.

It's still the same old story

By the time this edition of the *Bulletin* arrives, each menorah will back to its special position on its special shelf. But, because Chanukah 5763 is still within brilliant memory, the following piece is still appropriate.

As with other festivals that were declared for all generations, Chanukah remains not only relevant but with renewed content in each generation. Many events, which occurred 'in those days,' are comparable to those in public agenda, political, cultural and spiritual-ity even 'in these times.' Apart from the blatant anti-Semitism that still rages today, the internal questions of separation, integration, assimilation and 'culture clashes' regularly raise the same topics in modern times.

Even the ancient ceremonies themselves are an expression of the relevance to our present reality. One example is the ancient rabbinical disagreement between the two leading groups, Bet Shammai and Bet Hillel, on the ascending or descending order of lighting the candles. Bet Hillel believed that one candle should be lit on the first night, two on the second, and so forth. On the other hand, Bet Shammai was in favour of lighting all eight candles on the first night, gradually decreasing in number. Bet Shammai held the idealistic approach, while Bet Hillel believed in an evolutionary process. As to the question of which key element of the Chanukah story is commemorated by the lighting of candles, Bet Shammai claimed it was the fire - a reminder of the success of the battlefield, which is why they held that eight candles should be kindled on the first night. Bet Hillel, on the other hand, claimed that the emphasis was on the element of light - gradual triumph of good over evil and, therefore, one light should be lit on the first night, two on the second, and so on.

History and Future often intertwine. The symbol of the State of Israel is based on the menorah, while the idea for the national flag comes from the talit, prayer shawl and the Shield of David. The main message of the Chanukah lies in the spirit that motivated the Maccabees, which they instilled into our consciousness.

Fabulous four become B'nai Mitzvah

Mazal Tov and Yasher Koach to Matthew Blostein, Michael Gaty, Daniel Katz and Michael Stelcner all of whom became B'nai Mitzvah recently. The proud parents of each the young celebrants chose to add a meaningful dimension to the milestone by inscribing their child's name in the Sefer Bar/Bat Mitzvah.

Golden Book inscription

In honour of his Bar Mitzvah, Nicholas Greenberg has been inscribed in the Golden Book by his proud family.

On a daily basis you can plant trees for all occasions. An attractive card is sent to the recipient. To order, call the JNF office (798-2411).

Communications and community relations director appointed

Mitchell Bellman, executive director of the Jewish Community Council of Ottawa/Vaad Ha'R recently announced the appointment of Gabriel Meranda as director of communications and community relations.

For the past five years, Meranda, a native of Toronto served as the executive director of the Vancouver Hillel Foundation in British

Columbia, supervising all campus activity throughout western Canada. Other professional appointments have seen him serve as the director of the Jewish Students' Union at the University of Western Ontario (UWO) in London, and director of the Israel Experience Centre in Montreal.

Meranda is spending much of his time presently

meeting with a number of community members in an effort to get a better sense of the Ottawa Jewish Community. One of his major goals is to "build bridges within our community that foster cooperation and growth." He adds, "There is a lot in our community to be proud of and I'd like to make sure that we can celebrate together."



Gabriel Meranda

Amram Mitzna to lead Labour in Israeli elections

(Continued from page 1)
of leftist policies, and has the support of the so-called peace camp. He spells out his program. He calls for a return to negotiations with the Arabs and is willing to talk to Arafat or whomever the Arabs choose as their leader. "We must negotiate as if there is no terror, and fight terrorism as if there are no negotiations," he says. If negotiations fail then Israel must unilaterally separate from the Palestinians. He is prepared to evacuate all the settlements in the Gaza Strip as well as many outlying West Bank settlements. He would give the Palestinians a part of Jerusalem.

Further, he sees a connection between the present painful economic situation in the country and the fact that we are in the territories. He would reduce allocations that are today budgeted for the settlements, maintaining that the funds could be put to better use in Israel proper. He would expel 100,000 foreign workers. He would not join a



Amram Mitzna

government led by the Likud.

When we interviewed him we asked bluntly why he thought that an army career prepared a person for public service. He smiled. While in uniform, he said, he had good training in management, learned how to motivate people, how to administer complex units, to plan work methods, to develop a sense of reliability. And, he added, an officer in the army has much better training for public office than that received by the average politician.

Personal notes: He is pleasant and soft-spoken, but many feel he is lacking in charisma. He behaves with a certain amount of reserve, reminiscent of Rabin. He speaks a fluent English. The beard? It has nothing to do with religion. In 1967, together with a

group of fellow officers, he took a vow not to shave until peace was reached with the Arabs. Since then, the beard has obviously required much trimming. As mayor, he does not have a chauffeur, and prefers to drive his car himself.

His prospects? His candidacy has been greeted with enthusiasm by the left, though there is some fear that he may receive votes that might otherwise have gone to the peace parties. The Arabs view him favourably, and it is very likely that so many Arabs will vote for Mitzna and

Labor that the parliamentary strength of the Arab parties may be reduced. However, all public opinion polls predict that under the leadership of Ariel Sharon the Likud will achieve a sweeping victory. The perpetration of more terrorist attacks on Israeli civilians is serving to harden the determination of the Israelis to back the hard line Likud.

It remains to be seen if, after the election, Mitzna decides to remain as leader of Labor and continue the struggle, or go back to the relative peace of his Haifa mayoralty.



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Mazal Tov!

It's a girl!

Shari and Jon Cogan are thrilled to announce the birth of their daughter Sophie Rose, born Monday, November 25, 2002 weighing 6 lb 10 oz. Proud grandparents are Rhona and Leonard Cogan and Lillian and Norman Sirota (Toronto). Delighted great-grandmothers are Margaret Elinson (Montreal) and Fanny Berholz (Toronto).



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VAAD Report

**Charlie Wiseman
and Eric Wilner
Ottawa Hebrew Free Loan**

Editor's note: Vaad President Gerald Levitz has arranged to share his column, on occasion, with the chairs or presidents of the community's major beneficiary agencies or committees so that they can provide some insight into their operations.

For close to 70 years the Ottawa Hebrew Free Loan (OHFL) has been quietly and discretely providing an invaluable service to the Ottawa Jewish community. The OHFL is one member of a network of North American Hebrew Free Loan societies that make interest free loans to members of the community. The Hebrew Free Loan program is designed to lend sufficient funds, interest free, to all deserving Jewish people to alleviate the stress associated with the need of providing for life's necessities.

The establishment of Hebrew loan societies is based on the biblical and Talmudic precept of providing the Jewish poor with interest-free loans, and has its origin in the

following Torah passage: "If thou lend money to any of my people, even to the poor with thee, thou shalt not be to him as a creditor; neither shall ye lay upon him interest." (Exodus 22:24). Maimonides considered the interest-free loan among the higher forms of tzedakah because it respects the dignity of the borrower, provides them with a means of self-sufficiency, and does not saddle them with large debt.

The history of Hebrew Free Loan Societies is an interesting one. Before the 1930s, only a handful of banks loaned money to individuals or small businesses, especially those owned by immigrants. More than any other immigrant group at the time, Jews of Eastern European background worked in or owned small businesses, including small retail stores and workshops, peddlers' pushcarts and wagons. Without access to small loans provided by free loan societies, many of the businesses founded by and employing immigrant Jews would not have been created or survived. Minnie Low, founder in 1897 of the Chicago Women's Loan Association observed, "In the Chicago ghetto, along the Jefferson Street market, as well as

throughout the entire district, there are comparatively few of the peddlers, vendors and keepers of small stands and shops who have not been given a start in life or helped over rugged places by loans from local organizations." At their peak, more than 500 Jewish free loan societies operated throughout the United States. In 1920 alone, the New York Hebrew Free Loan Society distributed more than \$1 million in loans to Jewish-owned small businesses.

Free loan societies continue to make significant contributions. Today, free loan societies in Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Calgary and Vancouver have several million dollars in outstanding loans.

Originally starting with a loan limit of a few hundred dollars, the Ottawa Hebrew Free Loan now makes loans of up to \$3,000 per person. Couples are eligible for double that amount. The requirements are that the person be a member of the Jewish community of the greater Ottawa area and have two responsible Jewish persons co-sign their promissory note. Personal loans are offered to all types of clients with a multitude of needs. The mandate of the Ottawa Hebrew Free Loan is to help those facing a

temporary time of need - the immigrant, the unemployed, and others facing a personal crisis. A loan can be used for family emergencies, assist someone in starting a business, buying tools of their trade or any worthwhile purpose. The OHFL exists to enable people to help themselves. Loans are always interest-free, and are repaid by post-dated cheques over a set term.

The OHFL is currently exploring ways to further assist the community - possibly by way of different types of loans. The society does have some unused loan potential and is willing to discuss a loan with any interested person.

The OHFL usually conducts a campaign each spring to raise funds to defray its expenses. This past year in view of the situation in Israel and the community emergency appeal for Israel we decided to forego our campaign. Donations to the OHFL can be made at any time, and tax receipts are issued.

The Ottawa Hebrew Free Loan meets every Sunday morning from 10:00 am to noon in the Beth Shalom office, 151 Chapel Street. We can be reached during the week at 241-0742.



How I see it

Bob Dale

My wife is from Montreal, and every federal election, I tease her about the way Jews in (or from) Quebec vote. She gets really agitated whenever I tell her that if somebody ever put a sign around a pig's neck that said "Liberal" and ran the pig in certain ridings in Montreal, the pig would win a House of Commons seat. Actually, I'm a bit nastier than that. I tell her that she would personally vote for the pig.

My marriage has survived, despite my comments. Also, to be perfectly truthful, it wasn't much better in Toronto, where I grew up. Most of the Jews I knew voted Liberal too, although there were a small, vocal group of hard-core NDP supporters and a smaller contingent of PCs. Things have changed since my youth, but maybe not as much as they should have.

I usually try to stay out of politics in these columns, but there is something I've been wanting to say publicly. So here goes, and if you disagree, Barry Fishman is my editor and he likes to get letters. I've grown increasingly concerned about the way the majority of Jewish Canadians seem to vote for the federal Liberals almost reflexively, without asking themselves whether that party effectively reflects some of the key interests Canada's Jewish citizens hold dear, notably those related to Israel.

Like its predecessor, our current government is Israel's close ally. Nobody, especial-

ly me, would ever minimize the importance of the friendship the two countries enjoy. Our current Prime Minister has even visited Israel, and Israeli politicians regularly visit Canada, even if they occasionally get prevented from speaking on some university campuses.

But what does Canada have to say about Israel's right to use all reasonable measures to defend its citizens against the ongoing terrorist atrocities? Canada supports this right in principle, but its official statements usually call for "an end to the cycle of violence" and for "both sides to demonstrate restraint." That makes it seem that both sides are somehow equally responsible.

More specifically, official Canadian policy suggests there is a moral equivalence between Palestinian terrorism (deliberately killing babies in pizza parlours) and legitimate steps by Israel to protect its citizens from such attacks (retaliatory attacks on weapons factories after the latest terrorist attack). You don't have to be a rocket scientist to figure out that the two situations are altogether different. Despite that, I don't think the message has reached the Minister of Foreign Affairs or his boss, who apparently didn't know he was sitting near Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah, the "spiritual leader" of Hezbollah, when he attended La Francophonie.

Speaking of Hezbollah... While Canada unequivocally condemns terrorism, it insists on drawing an artificial distinction between Hezbollah's so-called "military" and "humanitarian" wings. Hezbollah has been implicated directly in scores of terrorist attacks against Israel, the US, and Western targets in the Middle East and international-

ly. I don't remember any of its statements that claim "credit" for these atrocities being attributed to one of its wings and not the other. Moreover, the people who know about such things tell us that Hezbollah regularly redirects funds contributed by Canadians and others in support of its humanitarian activities to its ongoing military campaign against Israel.

Given this, it baffles me how our government can stick to its line about the alleged distinction between Hezbollah's two branches; and the non-inclusion of Hezbollah and other Arab terrorist organizations in the list of banned organizations under Bill C-36, *The Anti-Terrorism Act*. Virtually every day, both the Solicitor General and the Leader of the Government in the Senate are asked probing questions by Stockwell Day of the Alliance and David Tkachuk of the PCs

about this preposterous government position, and waffle. Why?

There are many issues that cause people to vote for particular candidates or parties in any election. I therefore know that many readers may not share my views, or the weight I personally place on the current government's approach to Israel. That's fair.

At the same time, before voting in the next federal election, I strongly urge all of you to find out whether the candidate or party you intend to vote for support the views you hold important, in words and in practice. To help you decide, I suggest you contact the Canadian Jewish Congress at www.cjc.ca to subscribe to their *Yesterday in Parliament* e-mail service. It includes all the daily statements that members of the House and Senate make about Jewish concerns. Be warned: you may be in for some surprises.

Voting in our own best interests?

ottawa Jewish bulletin

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Editor

Barry Fishman

The federal government and, even more importantly, the Canadian public is about to pay attention to B'nai Brith. At a recent press conference on Parliament Hill, Frank Dimant, executive vice president, and David Matas, senior legal counsel for B'nai Brith, announced details of the application it has filed in federal court (trial division) to set aside the federal government's refusal to consider Hezbollah as a terrorist organization.

Ironically, the press conference was held the day after a rally in Lebanon where the leader of Hezbollah, Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah, called suicide attacks "Islamic and moral" and urged "martyrdom seekers" to "astonish the world." It was also the day after the terrorist attack on Israeli tourists in Kenya and at the Likud polling station in Israel.

It is no wonder that Dimant says, "It is absolutely insane to see the Canadian government defend its action that allows a terrorist organization the ability to raise money in Canada."

Dimant believes that "it is naive for the government of the day to presume that the building blocks of terror – which include the nurseries, medical units, farmers growing drugs in the Bekaa valley, financiers and the so-called charitable organizations surrounding the terrorist entity – do not contribute to the ultimate act of terror."

The government only lists the External Security Organization (ESO) of Hezbollah as a terrorist organization. This means that while the military arm of Hezbollah cannot raise money in Canada, its political and charitable arm can. And, of course, the

B'nai Brith takes the government to court

Canadian government has absolutely no idea of where the money eventually ends up. As lawyer David Matas puts it, the Canadian "concept of fair play has no relevance in the battle against terrorism."

The court application is designed to "change the mind set" of the government by challenging what is to me the irrational belief that only part of Hezbollah is a terrorist organization. Hezbollah preaches hate towards Israel, Jews and the West. And, contrary to what our government believes, it doesn't make any distinctions between its political, charitable or military wing.

Its leader Nasrallah has a plan for Jews: "... if they all gather in Israel, it will save us the trouble of going after them worldwide."

How about the good sheik's ideas on the need for global warfare: "To earn victory we have to fight on all fronts. We have to be global and integral."

But, according to Bill Graham, minister of foreign affairs, Hezbollah "runs schools and clinics in southern Lebanon and provides support for farmers."

Yes, Mr. Graham they do, and yes, they do have seats in the Lebanon parliament and have support in the Shi'a Muslim community. However, even if money raised in Canada went directly to the social agencies and not a penny was spent on the military wing of Hezbollah (which we know is unlikely), the fact remains Hezbollah preaches hatred and death towards Jews and the West. After all, Nasrallah is quoted as saying, "[Hezbollah will use] all the bullets in its possession until the last day." As early as 1998 he called for a holy war "... first, against U.S. imperialism and Zionism, we have no other way but holy war." And our government tells us that Canada is in the forefront of the war against terrorism.

Dimant is convinced that public opinion

will force the government to put the whole of Hezbollah on its terrorist list before the application works its way through the courts, which could take years. "We are convinced Canadians as a whole abhor terrorist and terrorist organizations." Once the Canadian public is aware of the situation, it will find it ludicrous that a Canadian government would "in any way shape or form attempt to vindicate, validate or justify any portion of a terrorist organization," he says.

"Today is the start of a major campaign to ensure that the government listens carefully to the will of the Canadian people who are opposed to terrorism." For Dimant it is clear that for most Canadians "all entities of terrorist organizations are part and parcel of the whole." He is hoping "that the government and particularly Bill Graham who has

been so actively defending Hezbollah will get the message loud and clear."

B'nai Brith, with its long history of human rights advocacy, deserves the support and appreciation of the greater community for its work. Not just Jews are threatened by radical Islam groups like Hezbollah. For years the RCMP and CSIS have warned the government that Hezbollah has been using Canada as a safe haven to plan and raise money to support terrorist activities.

Perhaps Dimant is right and public opinion is way ahead of the government and Hezbollah will be soon banned from raising money in Canada. Until it is, you can do your part by writing the government, educating your fellow Canadians about groups like Hezbollah and supporting B'nai Brith's court challenge.

MAILBAG

We must not remain silent

A recent incident conveyed to me how important it is, and how vigilant we must be, as Jews and as Canadians, to stand up to anti-Semitic acts whenever they occur. While I was shopping at a grocery store in the Alta Vista area, a store employee walked over to the clerk bagging my groceries and asked him if he would join the Canadian army. The clerk, who was clearly Arabic, answered: "Are you kidding?! I wouldn't fight for the Canadian army, I'd fight for my own country back home." His fellow employee then said: "Yeah, then you can throw bombs and kill Israelis." The clerk grinned and said: "Yeah."

I was livid and the clerk and I had words.

The entire exchange sickened me. I was disturbed by the comments, expressed so publicly in a public place. I called the store's owner and he was defensive throughout our conversation, basically saying that when it comes to the Middle East, both sides are at fault, and that everyone is entitled to his opinion. I told him that was not the point. As a customer of the store, I should not be subjected to offensive and aggressive comments from his staff.

There is no place for such talk by staff in a commercial establishment, whether it's about Jews or any other group. The responsibility for this clerk's behaviour and for continued employment rests with the owner of the store. Our responsibility, as Jewish Canadians, is not to remain silent when something like this happens. My being vocal didn't change anything, but at least I spoke out. I voiced my outrage. I didn't remain silent, and that's what is important.

David Globberman



From the pulpit

Rabbi Mordecai
Berger
Young Israel

Have you ever been to southern California? The smog, the fog, the incredible traffic jams – all reasons enough to stay away from that earthquake prone region. Nevertheless, the stunning palm trees, warm summer like winters, and Hollywood, make the L.A. region a choice tourist attraction.

Yiddishkeit has come of age in L.A.! P.K. Deli on Pico Blvd., Milk & Honey (owned by Steven Spielberg's mom), and La Gondola Italian restaurant are but a few of the eateries available for the locals and tourist alike. While Yeshivas and Shuls are significant milestones of achievement, the kosher eateries and services reflect a vibrant Jewish life, where religious values have been blended with social norms. The synthesis of heaven and earth, body and soul, are the tradi-

Southern California, Chanukah and the Temple

mark of the modern Torah observant Jew. No longer must the basics of social life be denied to a Jew who values Torah observance. This I experienced in L.A.

Chassidus underlines the responsibility of every Jew to make the world a better place. The recent holiday of Chanukah and the message of the "Lights" underscore this principle. The basic mitzvah of Chanukah is kindling the flames. How is light created? One must take a physical substance, like oil; heat it until it is transformed from its original state into a flame, which can illuminate the surrounding environment. Life's challenge is to transform this innate physical ego substance of man, into a giving sharing individual, who lives for the opportunity to do good for others. This is a message from transformation of oil into light.

The observance of Chanukah is rooted in the ritual of the Menorah of the Beis Hamikdash in Jerusalem. There are, however, several notable distinctions between the light of the Chanukah and the light of the Temple.

1) In the Temple the number of lights in

the Menorah remained constant, in contrast to Chanukah, when a new light is added each evening.

2) In the Temple the candles were lit during the day while there was light outside, the lights of Chanukah are kindled at night when darkness falls.

The times when the Menorah was kindled in the sanctuary, and later in the Temple, were times of material abundance. This was particularly true during the period when Israel wandered through the desert under the leadership of Moshe. The Jewish people were given all they required, manna from heaven, water from a miraculous well of Miriam, and the miraculous ability of their garments to always keep clean.

The era of King Solomon was similarly an epoch of peace and abundance.

The fact that the lights of the Temple Menorah were kindled at times of peace and plenty can also be understood in a spiritual sense. When man is free from material concerns, he can dedicate himself wholly to the study of Torah and performance of mitzvot,

occupying himself with spiritual matters.

In contrast, the lights of Chanukah were linked at a time when Israel endured the tyrannical rule of Syria-Greek and the Jewish army was very small. This physical constraint was also true on the spiritual level: ritual pure olive oil was unavailable.

At a time of spiritual darkness one should not allow oneself to be overcome with fear. Instead it should serve as a challenge to create additional light each day. This is the ultimate message of Chanukah, not to be content with the lights kindled the day before, but create additional light every single day. Nor should one be satisfied with generating light in ones own home. One must expend great effort for the specific purpose of creating light in the greater community.

When a Jew acts in this manner and is not content with past efforts, they possess the Divine assurance of ultimate success. Every increasing light in the darkness is a perfect metaphor for every increasing act of goodness and kindness. This is the ultimate message of the lights of Chanukah.

Ottawa seniors meet through Creative Connections

By Pamela Rosenberg

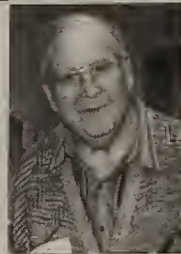
What began as a pilot project between AJA50+ and the Soloway Jewish Community Centre with funding provided by the City of Ottawa, People Services Department, became a regular Tuesday outing for 24 Ottawa seniors.

The idea behind Creative Connections is to attract those who are not involved and have become isolated at home partly do to the fact that they have no transportation. "Many JCC's have day-long recreational programs for older adults, and we wanted to give people here in Ottawa the opportunity to

gather for fun and companionship," says Maxine Miska, director of programming at the SJCC.

"We knew we hadn't reached out to people who have difficulty coming to the SJCC, we knew they were out there but not affiliated with anything," says Ruth Levitan, President of AJA 50+.

Creative Connections has been taking place at the SJCC every Tuesday. The program is designed for those who want to get out, participate and meet with peers. A full day of social and recreational activities gets under way at 9:30 am and



Seniors enjoy Creative Connections Chanukah party. (From left to right) Irene Waxman, Bert Bronstner and Rose Kestner are regular participants of the SJCC/AJA 50+ program. The next session begins Jan. 14, 2003.

require it, and the cost of the program works out to \$3 per week.

In an effort to reach every segment of the population Creative Connections has been translating their information to Russian in hopes of getting those seniors interested in joining.

The day consists of an exercise component geared to the age group, which usually involves walking or a 'Chai' Chi movement class and a segment where they discuss current events. And, whatever the activity, there is always a second option.

The average age of the participants is over 75 and according to Levitan, the group has really jelled over the 10 weeks and become more comfortable with each other.

"This is such a necessary thing: as you get older your life can be isolated, without even realizing it," she says. "You may see your family,

Jersey to be near his daughter after his wife passed away. Herb says he has never really been involved in things before but felt this was a good opportunity to meet people. He is also a member of the Jewish War Veterans.

Gene Naymark says she has not been involved in programs at the SJCC before Creative Connections because it was hard for her to get there.

"I have enjoyed the study groups and there have been good speakers," says Gene. "Ruth had us looking into our backgrounds and I started looking into my past and finding out more about where my family is from."

The first session of Creative Connections wrapped up recently with a Chanukah party; the second session begins January 14 and runs to February 15 followed by a five-week session from March 11 to April 8.

Miriam Levitan is the chair of Creative Connections for the new winter session.

Participants are invited to bring a friend for a day for \$3. To become a member of Creative Connections a membership to AJA 50+ or the SJCC is required.

but many become isolated from their peers. It's important to have a place where you can exchange ideas and exercise."

In addition to taking the group out, Creative Connections has speakers and special guests come in. As part of the activity where they talk about their family history the group welcomed Grace and Jim Hillel to talk about their family history in Iraq which the group greatly enjoyed.

Some people met for the first time in Creative Connections, some have rekindled friendships with people they hadn't seen in years and many are new to the Ottawa Jewish Community.

Herb Goldenberg recently moved to Ottawa from New

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A Professional Engineer and a graduate of the University of Manitoba, Mr. Saltzberg brings to this appointment practical experience with large engineering projects, coupled with management expertise at most senior levels, from his 42-year career with the Manitoba Department of Highways and Government Services. Mr. Saltzberg is currently a Technical Consultant for Research Projects with ISIS Canada.

The Faculty of Engineering, Design Engineering Group, is a Canadian leader in its approach to teaching the design process to engineering students.

Walter Saltzberg is married to Sheila Smith and is the son-in-law of Pearl Greenberg and Izzy Greenberg.



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Remembrance Day Shabbat Service at Beth Shalom West

By Esther Kulik

A ceremony marking Remembrance Day was held at Beth Shalom West on Shabbat, November 9 with the attendance of about 50 veterans from the Ottawa Post Jewish War Veterans of Cana-

da. It was very impressive to see them participate in the service wearing their traditional blue blazers and berets. Joining the Post as a special guest to mark this solemn occasion was Major-General Pierre Daigle, special adviser

to the chief of the defence staff on homeland security. The Canadian Armed Forces were also represented by Major-General Edward Fitch.

Rabbi Howard Finkelstein introduced veteran Donald R. Snipper QC, who practised law in our community for over 40 years. He related a very inspirational story of life in the Forces. In vivid detail, we heard some war stories, in particular the way he began his five and a half years of service in the RCAF

as a flight instructor, then as an overseas Spitfire pilot with 400 Squadron.

The congregation was asked to rise and veteran Gordon Spergel recited the Act of Remembrance. A respectful silence permeated the air as we listened to the reading of the names of those Canadian Jewish servicemen killed in both World Wars as well as in the defence of Israel. Cantor Daniel Ben-Elolo broke the silence by continuing with the chanting

of *keI Male Rachamim*.

Veteran Morrie Konick asked the congregation to recite Psalm 23. At that point, all the veterans congregated in the Bimah area and recited a Kaddish to commemorate their fallen comrades. As we all watched and listened to this special recitation of Kaddish, we felt their pain, their memories, our memories and then our own pain for the loved ones that we had lost in the Holocaust.

As this ceremony culmi-

nated Ottawa's 1st Annual Holocaust Week, there is no doubt that many of us linked the two events as one and the effect was overwhelming.

The Shabbat service will always be remembered as very poignant and Congregation Beth Shalom West is grateful to Post Commander Paul Bender, and veterans Sam Ages and Lou Fine for bringing their contingency of War Veterans to our congregation on this very important and somber occasion.

State of Israel Bonds

honours Dr. Norman Barwin

By Lauren Krugel

State of Israel Bonds will honour Dr. Norman Barwin, chair of the Ottawa UJA 2003 campaign at the 2003 Gala International Prime Minister's Club Dinner. Dr. Barwin is one of 21 North American community leaders who will meet at the Boca Raton Resort in Florida on Feb. 2. At the gala, each of these leaders will receive the Spirit of Jerusalem Medallion.

The guests of the gala are members of the Prime Minister's Club, an honour society made up of members from the United States, Canada, Europe and Latin America who provide \$25,000 or more annually in investment funds for Israel's economic development.

For over a quarter century, the Prime Minister's Club has been one of the most successful North American societies - raising significant investment capital for Israel. Because of the impact of Israel Bonds dollars, the quality of life in Israel has vastly improved.

The guest of honour and keynote speaker will be Silvan Shalom, Israel's finance minister and deputy prime minister. Besides showing gratitude to the members of the Prime Minister's Club, inauguration of the 2003 Israel Bonds Campaign will also take place at the event.

Joshua Matza, president and CEO of Israel Bonds says supporting the State of Israel is more important than ever in such an economically and politically volatile time.

"At a critical point in Israel's history, the State of Israel looks to Israel Bonds in an increasingly urgent way to provide desperately needed investment capital," he says. "At this year's dinner we will recognize those leaders who have stepped forward for Israel and focus the organization's energies on the campaign ahead."

The cost of the dinner is \$175. For future information and reservations call Marcia Cantor, executive director, State of Israel Bonds (792-1142).



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Enthusiastic crowd attends Arts Alive

By Pamela Rosenberg

The first major snowfall of the season didn't discourage two thousand people from brushing off their cars and heading out to the Soiway Jewish Community Centre for Arts Alive 2002, *Waves to the Shore: The Sephardi Experience*.

The event kicked off Saturday night with a full house at the Sephardi Henna Ceremony where partygoers were treated to traditional eats like Moroccan salads and mint tea as well as the live Andalusian music of the Eder Brothers. Both Sephardi and Ashkenazi guests got into the spirit of the night and came dressed for the occasion in beautifully coloured and beaded caftans.

Special guests at the Henna Ceremony included Israeli Ambassador Haim Diven and his wife Linda as well as Turkish Ambassador Erhan Ogut and his wife Ayse.

While the ululation and celebrations continued in the Social Hall the gymnasium was hopping as people purchased books, CDs, Judaica and jewelry. Vendors made the trip straight from Israel with handmade silver necklaces, watches and bracelets and Ahava was here with beauty products from the mud of the Dead Sea.

The walls and corners of the gymnasium were adorned with paintings by

Eli Benzaquen, Michael Harrouch, Henri Boudana and Cantor Daniel Benlolo, to name only some, while beautiful one of a kind *Keutobith* stood on display in the boardroom.

Sunday hosted lectures and demonstrations. Enthusiastic hip dancers shook their hips and waved veils, Dr. Dina Sabbah launched her book *Et Hazamir*, a collection of Sephardi festival music and Lynda Greenberg showed slides and spoke of her experiences in Morocco working with elderly Jews.

Many converged on Kosher Fare to sample the finest in kosher cuisine. Local caterers pleased palates with: sushi, burbon chicken, wolinsky, sandwienes and salads, sweet cakes and pastries.

Arts Alive 2002 wrapped up Sunday night at Agudath Israel Congregation with the Eder Brothers and The Shira Ottawa Choir performing to a sold out crowd of 350 including representatives from the World Jewish Congress.

The Chair of Arts Alive was Cantor Daniel Benlolo. Eva Amzallag, Yvonne Azuclos, Muriel Benlolo, Dr. Jean Boulakia, Marcia Cantor, Naomi Cracower, Edie Landau, Ethel Malek and Viviane Ohana-Sandler made up the volunteer committee.

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Stanley Kershman on his new appointment by Bert and Kathryn Palmer.

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Mr. and Mrs. Manny Agulnik on Adam's engagement by Morton, Sheila, Stephanie, Harland and Brandee Tanner and by Sue and Phil Bronshten.

Mr. Al Cohen on his 80th birthday by Eileen, Alan, Melissa and Joshua Cohen.

Linda and Don Swalsky on their recent simcha by Sharon and Edward Fitch and by Roslyn and Michael Wollock and sons.

Mrs. Anita Dubinsky on her special birthday by Roslyn and Michael Wollock and sons.

Rabbi and Mrs. A. Fine and family on granddaughter's Bat Mitzvah by Jerry and Lily Penso.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Aranoff on their 60th wedding anniversary by Irene and Lee Waxman and Sandy, Gerry, Chad and Rian Bayne.

Mr. and Mrs. Stokes-McLoud on their son's Bar Mitzvah by Michael and Roslyn Wollock.

Dr. and Mrs. Norman Tenenbaum on their wedding anniversary by Roslyn and Michael Wollock.

Mr. and Mrs. Steven Kaiman on Tobin's Bar Mitzvah by David Lieff and Shelly Slack.

Mr. Charles Schachnow on his 40th birthday by Harold Feder and Howard Yegendorf.

Refuah Sh'lemah to:

Mrs. Edie Koranyi by Claire and Morris Miller.

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Sarah Leibov by Raymond Julien and Claire DeChamplain; by Helen Flesher; by Max and Ellie Greenberg; by Jerry and Lily Penso; by Mark Borts.

Joyce Steinberg by Len and Mary Potechin; and by Mark Borts.

Louis Woolf by Tamir Board Members, Residents and Staff; by Frank and Hedda Medjuck, Bena and Jacob; by Freda Litwick.

Lil Lang by Glenda, David and Jordana Moss; by Marjorie, Lou and Howard Goldmaker; by Murray Schechter; by Jack and Susan Feldberg; by Evelyn and Irving Greenberg; by Bert Palmer and family.

Arthur Rudy by Roslyn and Michael Wollock; by Rochelle and Brian Pearl and family.

Morris Cantor by Freda and Maxwell Lobel; by Max and Ellie Greenberg; by Bernice Kerzner; by Jerry and Lily Penso; by Len and Mary Potechin.

General

Thanking Mark Borts on behalf of the Board, Staff and Clients for his hard work in leading the Tamir Golf Tournament to such success.

Thanking Stan and Helen Gilman for their hospitality by Edye and Irv Jacobson/Brown.

OJHS honours Gdalyah Rosenfeld

By Diane Koven

Ten years of dedication and devotion to the Ottawa Jewish Historical Society (OJHS) were recently acknowledged with gratitude, much to the surprise of honoree Gdalyah Rosenfeld.

As he sat in the audience at what he thought was the regular September meeting of the society, Rosenfeld had no idea that the meeting was, in fact, a tribute to his hard work on its behalf for over a decade.

President Lawrence Freedman reminded Rosenfeld of the summer of 1994 when, during negotiations with the Vaad, "as the result of your determination and diplomacy, we were successful in accomplishing many of our goals." He outlined the efforts, year after year, which Rosenfeld had made in bringing the OJHS to where it is today.

Rosenfeld worked with other directors of the OJHS on a committee, which facilitated the transfer of ownership of the archives from the society to the Vaad. The Ottawa Jewish Archives are now housed in the Greenberg Families Library at the Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building.

In addition to organizing several lectures, Rosenfeld co-chaired the Kovod evening in 1998, which honoured Shirley Berman for 30 years of service with the OJHS; chaired the evening



Gdalyah Rosenfeld
(Photo courtesy
Ottawa Jewish Archives)

honouring Morrie Konick for his work on the digitization of the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin; and chaired the Ottawa Jewish Archives Committee in the transition of the archives to the Vaad.

One of Rosenfeld's ideas was the book collaboration with the Ottawa Jewish War Veterans. By helping the Veterans finance the publication of their book, "There I was ... a Collection of Reminiscences by Members of the Ottawa Jewish Community Who Served in World War II," Rosenfeld made it possible for the stories to be read. In order to ensure that local Jewish youth remember the sacrifices made by the veterans, Rosenfeld suggested that the OJHS purchase 500 copies of the book, which they now distribute to all Bar and Bat Mitzvah youth in local synagogues.

It was Rosenfeld's dream that a book be written about the history of the Ottawa Jewish community and that,

too, will soon become a reality. A board member has been appointed to oversee the business plan and before long the writing will begin.

As a result of a submission by Rosenfeld, the OJHS is now considering an essay competition that encourages young people to research and write about the history of the community. For students at the university level who write papers about the history of the Ottawa Jewish community, funds are to be made available at both Carleton and Ottawa University, through the Jacob Freedman Memorial Award. This, too, was arranged with the assistance of Rosenfeld.

Rosenfeld's contributions to the OJHS are numerous and varied, but have not ended. Said Freedman, as he thanked the honoree for all his hard work, "...You continue to bring new ideas to strengthen and broaden the society."

Rosenfeld was presented with a framed certificate of appreciation as well as an enlarged photograph of himself, which had been taken at a meeting of the OJHS in 1994.

During his acceptance speech, Rosenfeld thanked the OJHS for the honour and said: "The Ottawa Jewish Historical Society is endeavouring to make sure that we record the past so that we understand the present and plan for the future."



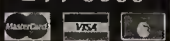
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**New expanded Kosher section opens
at Loblaws College Square Market**

(From left to right) Alyce Baker, kosher market manager, Loblaws' Mika West; Mitchell Ballman, executive director Ottawa Vaad Ha'R; Gerald Lavitz, president Vaad; and Rabbi Mitchell Cohen, director Ottawa Vaad HaKashrut cut the ribbon to officially open the greatly expanded Kosher Market at the new Loblaws store at the corner of Baseline and Woodroffe.

Loblaws new Kosher Market impressive in every way

By Barry Fishman

If the opening day is any indication, Loblaws new Kosher Market will be a hit with the Ottawa Jewish community. Rabbi Mitchell Cohen, director of Ottawa Vaad HaKashrut best summed up the community's reaction to the new Loblaws kosher market store at the corner of Baseline and Woodroffe when he told the *Bulletin*, "It is way beyond my expectations."

The close to 8,000 square foot kosher market carries an amazing variety of kosher meats, a dairy section featuring domestic and imported cheeses that is twice the size of the Pinecrest store, plenty of new frozen products, a complete line of bakery goods made on site and a new Kosher aisle full of unique grocery items.

Loblaws expects the

Meals to Go to be popular with harried consumers. The freshly prepared ready to eat meals include barbecue chicken and the fixings, rice dishes, egg rolls, knishes, latkes, meat balls, cabbage rolls, salads and chicken drums, wings, legs and breasts.

The 115,000 square foot store at the corner of Baseline and Woodroffe is the largest Loblaws in the Ottawa area. Other departments include jewelry, home décor, adult and children's clothing, electronics, cosmetics, pharmacy and in-store photo lab.

The store hours are Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 9:00 pm, Saturday 7:00 am to 9:00 pm and Sunday 9:00 am to 6:00 pm. The kosher food and deli counter and preparation area will be closed at 2:00 pm on Friday and will remain closed during Shabbat.

Loblaws is confident that with the amount of variety now available in the new store, consumers will no longer feel they have to shop in Montreal or Toronto for kosher products.

Mazal Tov!

It's a boy!

Bobby and Zaidic, Phyllis and Laz Newman and Grandpa Reuben Fine are thrilled to announce the birth of their newest grandson on November 10, 2002 in Ramat Gan, Israel. Adir Ya'acov, named in blessed memory of his great-grandfather, the late Jack Ross, is the son of Oranite (Ori) and Asher Fine, and a brother to Zohar (Zoe) who have recently made aliah to Israel.

It's a boy!

Talal and Gina Camel-Toueg welcome with love their little prince Noah Avigdor (Ezra). He was born June 26, 2002. Noah is the grandson of Antoinette Camel-Toueg, Phyllis and Laz Newman and Reuben Fine. He is named in loving memory of Great Bobby Esther Ross.

New JFS program helps singles meet

A new initiative at Jewish Family Services called *Futures* is designed to help Jewish adults between the age of 21 to 40 to meet and socialize.

Program Coordinator Tawn Friedman says, "parties, weekend getaways, sports leagues, education and spiritual programming are just a sample of what we are looking to create."

Futures kick off program is called Matzoball Party and it takes place on Tuesday, December 24 at 8:00 pm at MTL&CO, 47/49 William Street. There will be food, music and a silent auction. Proceeds from the silent auction will be donated

to the JFS's "Street Smart" program. The program is designed to provide outreach to the homeless and street people of Ottawa.

Upcoming events include a bachelor auction, premiere showing of 'Schmelvis,' Winterlude

Shabbaton, and all-night Purim party.

For more information about the Matzoball Party and *Futures* call Tawn Friedman, program coordinator at 722-2225 ext. 401 or e-mail (tfriedman@jewishfamilyservices.org).



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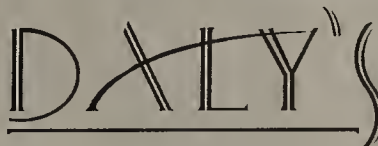
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SCHOOL NEWS

Hillel Academy students win academic competition

By Benita Baker

Hillel Academy has always boasted about its commitment to excellence in education. On Thursday, November 13th, a group of grade 7 and 8 Hillel students won the 2002 Academic Quest, providing yet another example of how Hillel students distinguish themselves academically.

This quiz-type competition is a United Way fundraising event hosted by Turnbull School. In addition to Hillel and Turnbull, the other schools participating this year were Elmwood, Joan of Ark and Kingsway College School from Toronto. Each school's entry fee was a can of twonies, for a total of \$1288 donated to United Way. Of the \$600

raised by Hillel Academy's "Twoonie Drive," half filled the can and the remaining \$300 was a direct donation to the United Way.

Hillel's proud winning team included: Ashira Gailor, Nicholas Greenberg, Stacy Katz and Rebecca Nadler. Alternates Jacob Polowin and Ryan Baker thought they would cheer on their team mates from the sidelines but were surprised to discover that the four-member team could be substituted each round.

The theme of this year's Academic Quest was Canadian History and Geography. The questions were based on the book *CanQuiz* by local author Alastair Sweeny as well from sections of the Canadian Ency-



Hillel Academy Grade 7 and 8 students (from left to right) Ryan Baker, Jacob Polowin, Stacy Katz, Nicholas Greenberg, Rebecca Nadler and Ashira Gailor win first place in 2002 Academic Quest.

clopedia's web site. The students were also expected to know general information about the United Way.

The students met daily at lunch time with their coach, teacher Susan

Otis. Thanks to the dedication of both coach and students, the Hillel team took the lead early on in the competition, proving their knowledge in both the team and individual questions during each round.

Celebrity quiz masters and scorers at the event included United Way Chair, Jim Watson, and President Michael Allen, as well as 1976 Olympic silver medalist Greg Joy and CBC radio personality, Alan Neal. Following the awards ceremony, door prizes were handed out to some lucky participants. Nicholas Greenberg, the Hillel Academy team captain and star, won the grand prize, an Ottawa Senators jersey signed by Daniel Alfredson.

Israeli educators visit Ottawa Talmud Torah Afternoon School

One of the many activities at Ottawa Talmud Torah Afternoon School is learning about Israel.

Three Israeli educators recently joined the students and created fun games to help them learn more about Israel.

The games served an educational purpose. They were extremely effective in drawing the students' attention and ultimately in keeping them interested in learning about the Jewish nation.

One of the games was designed by the Israelis to familiarize Canadian students with the major cities of Israel and their location



Israeli game helps familiarize Canadian students with the major cities of Israel and their location.

within the country. The children enjoyed finding the

names of the cities on a 10 metre x 4 metre map of Israel and placing name cards in the correct location on a personalized smaller map.

Through this exercise, the students became ex-

posed to the geography of Israel. Another game designed by the Israelis helped the students become aware of historical individuals who were essential to the State of Israel. The game illustrat-

ed the names of the historical figures, their contribu-

tion and importance to Israel and the period of time in which they lived. In this exercise, the children learned the significance of such historical persons as the first Prime Minister of Israel, David Ben Gurion.

These educational games not only helped our students learn more about Israel and develop an interest in the Jewish nation, they also gave them the opportunity to interact with Israelis.



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Founder of the Zamir Chorale of Boston to lecture on Jewish music

By Ezra Miller

Joshua Jacobson, founder and director of the Zamir Chorale of Boston will provide two lectures in Ottawa in January on themes related to Jewish music. Dr. Jacobson is one of the foremost authorities on Jewish choral music and is professor of music and director of choral activities at Northeastern University, and adjunct professor of Jewish music at Hebrew College. The lectures will be held at

Temple Israel and St. Basil's Church, building on the cooperation that was forged between the two congregations in bringing Frannie Sheridan's remarkable play, *The Waltons*, to Ottawa in 1997 and 1998.

On Sunday, January 12, 2003, two lectures are being offered. At Temple Israel at 10:00 am, Professor Jacobson will present *Music in the Time of the Bible*. Using the Bible, ancient texts, archaeology and

comparative musicology, the nature of the music at the time of the First and Second Temples will be discussed. At St. Basil's Church at 1:00 p.m. the topic will be *The Sacred Bridge*, tracing the common roots and diverse routes of Christian and Jewish liturgical music. Tickets for the lectures are available from Temple Israel and St. Basil's Church and are free of charge. Temple Israel is located at 1301 Prince of Wales Drive

and St. Basil's is located at 940 Rex Avenue. For information please contact the organizers Terry Schwarzfeld, Temple Israel tschwarzfeld@rogers.com or Kevin Burns, St. Basil's sevenstories@sympatico.ca or the Temple office (224-1802).

In a related event, the chamber choir Musica Ebraica will present its second full length concert at Temple Israel on Sunday, January 19 at 7:30 pm. Dr. Jacobson has

been a leader in the renaissance of Jewish choral music sung by many choirs in North America including Musica Ebraica. Indeed, many of the pieces in the choir's repertoire were arranged by Dr. Jacobson. Musica Ebraica was formed in the summer of 2001 and the group now has

grown to 23 accomplished singers, Jewish and non-Jewish. The concert on January 19 is in honour of Shabbat Shira. Tickets are \$15 (\$10 for seniors and students; special arrangements are available for families), and are available by calling Temple Israel.

Jewish retirement home in planning stages

By Rhoda Abbey

One of the facilities described in the recent Jewish Family Services seniors task force report on housing was a non-institutional setting where eight to 10 residents live together in a home-like atmosphere.

The facility referred to is part of Abbeyfield Society, an international, non-sectarian, non-profit corporation, which began in the U.K. Each home pays a fee to the Abbeyfield Society for which it obtains information and support from the parent group. In Canada, the constituent homes are affiliated with the Canadian Abbeyfield Society. Each home is

separately incorporated, has a charitable designation, its own board of directors and sets its own policies.

There are two Jewish Abbeyfield homes in London, England, one of which is kosher. A small group of seniors has recently met to plan the establishment of the first Canadian Jewish Abbeyfield home right here in Ottawa. The hope is to acquire a property in proximity to the SJCC.

The planning group anticipates that the home would accommodate eight to 16 residents, each having their own bedroom with ensuite bathroom, air conditioning and alarm pull. An elevator with

key access, common areas including an attractively decorated living room, dining room and kitchen would be carefully planned. A housekeeper, assistant housekeeper, handyman and up to three personal attendants would comprise the paid help. Volunteers would be encouraged to help out as well.

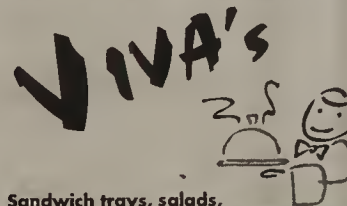
The planning group wishes to keep monthly cost to live at the home as low as possible, with some subsidies available. Presently the Abbeyfield Home on Parkdale Avenue, referred to in the task force report, sets its rent at \$1600 per month. This includes meals and parking, but not cable and telephone. Residents make their own breakfast but are served lunch and dinner in the dining room. A live-in housekeeper or assistant is on duty at all times.

How will the residents pay for this? In addition to the monthly rents, the planning group is looking into possible funding from the provincial and municipal governments, as well as

grants from agencies and foundations. Individual investors, both residents and non-residents may also be forthcoming.

An inaugural meeting in early November attracted 10 people interested in living in or helping with the first Jewish Abbeyfield home in Ottawa. Those interested in becoming involved in the project are asked to call: Rhoda Abbey (730-5639); or Murray Citron (731-7530); or Irene Gordon (745-4189).

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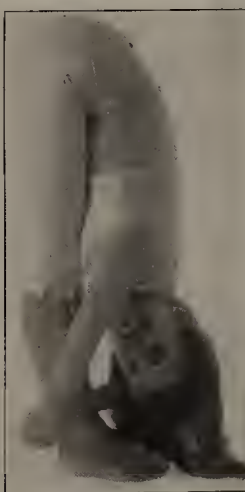
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The Art of Life: *Blind Spot. Hitler's Secretary*

By Tammy Stone

Why do we watch movies? This question – as with most questions concerning art – sparks fierce debates among artists, critics and academics. Do artists have a moral responsibility towards the public, or does freedom of expression reign? Can, or should, art be considered a tool for political change?

These are just a few of the questions inspired by a

fascinating documentary called *Blind Spot. Hitler's Secretary*, showcased a few months ago at the 27th annual Toronto International Film Festival. But the context for such a deceptively simple, intriguing film is so vast and thorny that I ask you to forgive me while I digress as briefly as possible.

The film camera has been considered by political filmmakers to have extraor-

dinary powers. There are whole traditions of cinemas that exist to serve the aim of nation-building, whole rosters of filmmakers who would not deny that their films are propaganda designed to jolt audiences into political action – early Soviet cinema and wartime British documentary are some examples.

Although political films have largely given way to what we might call 'art for art's sake' in the post-Cold War era, the feeling that art is something more than 'just' art, persists. That's why people get outraged when they see, as I did at the festival, a lengthy, grotesque and brutal rape scene in a film. Cinema, in fact, more than any other art, invites scrutiny and attracts, as in the case of this rape scene, judgment, because films are shot in real time, and have duration – like real life. And as the most lifelike art, cinema blurs the distinction between art and reality, aesthetics and the sociopolitical.

Which brings us back to the question, what is art? When it comes to cinema, nowhere is this question more difficult to answer than in the realm of documentary. When people go to see documentaries, they know that what they are about to see is 'real', and may not think of the documentary as a work of art at all. More often than not, when I come out of documentary screenings, I hear people talking about issues the documentary has touched on, rather than the film-as-artwork. This was definitely the case with four Middle Eastern films I saw this year at the festival –

two Israeli, and two Palestinian. It was also the case with André Heller and Othmar Schmider's *Blind Spot. Hitler's Secretary*, arguably the most moving documentaries/films about the Holocaust film to emerge in years.

Blind Spot uses none of the Holocaust footage we are so familiar with. Nor does the film attempt any kind of dramatic structure or didacticism. In a very important way, what you see is what you get. The filmmakers went into the home of 81-year-old Traudl Yunge, and quite simply, turned the camera on as she spoke.

The result is an absolutely riveting personal account of an era we've all seen portrayed and recreated and retold over and over – but never like this. She brings the Hitler era to life so vividly that, weeks after seeing the film, I seem to recall seeing actual footage of the war – but I didn't. Yunge speaks of Hitler from the perspective of a young girl spellbound by the country's leader, and not at all aware of the future that awaited the world.

She doesn't shy away from presenting Hitler as a man (who loved his dog, for instance), as well as an evil dictator, but nor does she defend herself by saying she didn't realize the full extent of what was going on. She matter-of-factly states that this is what it was like for her to work for a charismatic and – yes, human – leader, and then quietly tells us, desolately, that she's spent the last 50 years trying to forgive herself and come to terms with her own involvement in this horrifying war. Yunge died just hours

after the film had its world premiere last February in Berlin. What she has left us with is another important piece of the puzzle. Trying to understand the past is always a puzzle that can never be completed, that doesn't have a last, finalizing piece. *Blind Spot* is not a definitive account of the Holocaust, and nor is it more or less relevant than other accounts. It is for that reason that everyone should see it.

Whether or not it has

value as art is more difficult to answer.

There are so many reasons to watch movies today – perhaps as many as there are people. To me, any experience that reaches down into the core of one's being, that transports one – as *Blind Spot* does – so completely into someone else's mind and someone else's era, is an artistic experience.

But then, isn't life, at its richest, an artistic experience too?

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Israeli author discusses new novel, *Human Parts*, at Temple Israel

By Sharon Abiron Drache

Human Parts, the gripping title of Orly Castel-Bloom's most recent novel, published in Israel (Zmora Bitan, March 2002), and available in 2003 in English from Canada's Key Porter Books, formed the basis of Castel-Bloom's talk in Ottawa at Temple Israel, co-sponsored by the Ottawa International Writers' Festival and The Israel Cultural Forum.

Cool and crisp with her delivery, this stunning red-headed woman, clad in skin-tight blue jeans, sat for her entire lecture. Her pose exuded a staged control because what she talked about was fragmented, like the title of her new book, which she began writing in May of 2000 prior to the second intifada. Counting herself among the Israeli writers who began publishing in Israel in the 1980s, she says, "I was born in Tel Aviv in 1960. The building of Israel was done by my parents' generation. With the great shock of the second intifada, I realized their work was not finished." Unlike the previous generation of Israeli writers such as Amos Oz, who rejected the status quo in Israel and through his creative writing saw himself as a conscience of the nation, Castel-Bloom explains why she does not have that luxury, living and

writing as she does in the current maelstrom of suicide bombings.

In the few days since she has been in Canada, first in Montreal at the *Salon du Livre*, and now in Ottawa, she has spent \$200 on phone calls to find out whether or not her two children get to and from school safely each day. "I see myself as being too close to reality. I am a witness, and yet I must be fragmented, or I could not survive."

The result is *Human Parts*, a novel of extremes in which she was compelled to invent artificial distances, because reality is too painful. She also allowed fear to play an important part in her work. Her inventions to create darkness and foreboding includes changing the weather of Israel. "It is always cold and wet, not the white snow of a Canadian winter, but the cold grey persistent drizzle of England." She also uses the lunar calendar when referring to Jewish months and years. And she invents a Saudi flu that is devastating to the Israeli population. She talks uneasily about her trapped characters, and of "how death becomes a mother, enfolding them in her arms."

Castel-Bloom has been likened to Franz Kafka. I can see why when she describes her divorced female protagonist who



Orly Castel-Bloom
(Photo: Dan Lev)

needs to get her teeth fixed but cannot afford to until she finds a dentist whose prices are dirt cheap. The dentist's face had been burned in a conflict on the Lebanese border. "No one wants to look at this man. The situation is beyond despair and becoming ruth-

less, and this is frightening."

What Castel-Bloom regrets is that her fiction, as mean and dark as it is, pales when compared to the realities in Israel in the wake of the uncompromising suicide bombings.

The first draft of *Human Parts* was finished on September 11, 2001. Castel-Bloom couldn't begin revisions for several weeks until she thought about how she could save herself and her readers – by fragmenting her writing she tried to achieve an operative whole.

Before beginning her revisions of *Human Parts*, she bought herself a new

handbag, a new pair of sunglasses, and leased a new car. With a resigned look of guilt, she points to the purse and the sunglasses. "I didn't want to feel bad anymore."

She sits before the Temple audience of about 75, appearing calm, talking about her new novel, *Human Parts* and reading from it in Hebrew, enabling listeners to hear the musicality of the Hebrew, but as soon as her reading and talk are over, she will run to the phone, and call Israel. Are her two children okay – did they return safely from school today?

Like Kafka's *The Trial*, *Human Parts* deals with the

relentless futility of trying to change a situation in which one is trapped. The question is how to survive the entrapment.

Orly Castel-Bloom currently lives in Tel Aviv. She has published nine books for adults and one book for children. In 1990 she received the Tel Aviv Prize for Literature. *Where Am I* (novel, Zmora Bitan, 1990) and *Dolly City* (novel, 1992, Zmora Bitan, 1992) have been included in the Unesco Collection of Representative Works. In 1999, a leading Israeli newspaper included Castel-Bloom among the 50 most influential women in Israel.



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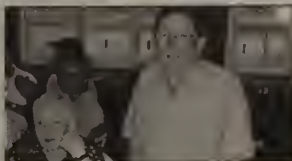
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The Book Beat

Kinneret Globerman

What compels people to seek spiritual renewal? Perhaps it's a desire to know themselves on a deeper level. Or maybe it's just the need to find meaning in a life that is chaotic, within a society where status and money are held up as virtues and what you are in those terms, as opposed to who you are as a person, is what's venerated.

The two authors below set out on spiritual quests that reconnect them with Judaism, in two entirely different ways.

Through the Unknown, Remembered Gate:

A Spiritual Journey

By Emily Benedek
Schoken Books/Random House
Hardcover, 2001
335 pages

It takes Lyme disease, a bout with temporary blindness, and a very astute psychoanalyst for Emily Benedek to find her way back to Judaism. The respected writer with two books on the Navajo and Hopi Indians under her belt has just broken up with her non-Jewish boyfriend. She finds herself in Dallas, Texas, with uncertain job prospects, at rock-bottom. Then, she loses her sight and has "a moment of true sight, of true insight...inklings of the Divine." That

Journeys to the centre of the soul

epiphany sends her on a journey of discovery.

Benedek immerses herself in the Orthodox world, hungry to learn. To say she is introspective is putting it mildly. She questions everything, observing with the keen eyes of an investigative journalist. Although her psychoanalyst provides her with extraordinary insight, she can hold her own in the analytical department. She dissects every experience she undergoes, every thought, every reaction, with the skill of a surgeon. In fact, it's a bit much after a while. The saving grace is that she writes and writes well.

In the course of her journey, Benedek has interesting theological discussions, trying to make sense of Judaism's basic beliefs. The more she learns, the more she opens up her heart to Judaism, yet the more she questions, until she comes to the understanding that "the purpose of humans is to elevate the mundane and the physical to the spiritual by being aware of God's presence in it." She finally finds a place for herself in a modern Conservative shul.

The title of the book comes from a T. S. Eliot poem that says, basically, that all journeys take us back to our beginnings. And so it is with Benedek.

Climbing Jacob's Ladder: One Man's Journey to Rediscover A Jewish Spiritual Tradition

By Alan Morinis
Broadway Books/Random House
Hardcover, 2002
225 pages

Like Benedek, a spiritual crisis becomes the catalyst for Alan Morinis to begin his spiritual quest and like Benedek, he is drawn to Orthodoxy for his answers.

Morinis grew up in a family where Judaism "was mostly a cultural and ethnic identity that had almost nothing to do with religion or spirituality." Not that Morinis didn't seek out a more spiritual existence earlier on in life. He took numerous trips to India, as a youth, adopting Buddhist meditation and yoga practices. But as life moved on, he forgot these disciplines, embracing materialism as his spiritual substitute.

And then his world crashes and he enters darkness, not through blindness but a mid-life crisis. The Rhodes scholar and successful film producer loses his bearings until he discovers Mussar – an ethical tradition developed within Orthodox Judaism over the last one thousand years and almost entirely wiped out in the Holocaust. (Mussar means "morality" in Hebrew.)

To Morinis, the fact that one could transform oneself spiritually not through reciting prayers but by daily methodical and practical exercises was a radical idea. He had to learn more about this movement that taught one how to lead an ethical life, that trained one to strive for spiritual perfection and to "correct whatever shortcomings may be preventing the light of our soul from shining through."

Morinis ends up in Far Rockaway at a yeshiva run by Rabbi Yechiel Yitzchak Perr, an expert on Mussar teachings. Through their conversations, we learn how Mussar offers a way of overcoming ingrained bad habits and *mid-dot*, or character traits; that every daily experience offers the opportunity to transcend the baser traits.

Morinis provides practical exercises to incorporate the Mussar way in everyday life. Some of the exercises entail chanting phrases repeatedly until they become part of the subconscious, just like New Age affirmations. Done faithfully, he asserts, Mussar can help proponents overcome ingrained bad habits and attain a higher spiritual plain by working to quell those reactive forces within, to "help us become the fullest version of the unique soul we already are."

Morinis has his own website (www.morinis.ca) and now lectures on the teachings of Mussar. Is he just another New Age guru? Maybe, but his book sheds light on a little-known Jewish tradition for rectifying one's negative traits and that can't be all-bad.

This month at the Greenberg Families Library:

The Ottawa Jewish Film Society presents its third program of the season, another double feature, on Sunday, January 19 at 2:00 pm.

"Great Cantors in Cinema" is an hour-long, U.S.-made film featuring some of the rarest and finest performances of renowned cantors during the "Golden Age of Chazzanut," the 1930s and 40s. Includes Yossele Rosenblatt. In Hebrew, Yiddish and English, with English sub-titles. Made in 1993.

It will be followed by "Israel Rocks," a 1991 Gold-Medal-winning TV documentary that features singers, bands and choirs. 55 minutes. Hebrew with English sub-titles. Both films are open to SJCC and Library members.

There are no book discussions in December or January.

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Art Works/Rose Ann Hoffenberg

Voyage into Myth: French Painting from Gauguin to Matisse from The Hermitage Museum, Russia, Art Gallery of Ontario

The current exhibition at the AGO, in Toronto, *Voyage into Myth*, is as much a tribute to the two remarkable Russian patrons, Sergei Shchukin and Ivan Morozov, as it is to the French modern artists. Before these wealthy merchants established their domain in Moscow, Russian collectors of foreign works were either part of the Imperial court or living in the more westward-looking city of St. Petersburg. (St. Petersburg is a coastal city on the western edge of Russia.)

Shchukin spent four

months of the year travelling to exotic locations (India, Palestine, Egypt), and France inevitably became a part of his itinerary. He purchased works from Parisian dealers and was confident in choosing the most avant-garde art from the most promising young artists.

He derived pleasure from purchasing paintings from the most brilliant artist and moved on only when a new light shone on the horizon. For example, he began with the Impressionists: 11 Monets, 1 Pissarro, 4 Degas and

2 Renoirs. Then he looked to the Post-Impressionists—taking a risk in bringing the first Cézanne painting to conservative Russia, and hanging dozens of Gauguin works on his dining room wall. He moved into the 20th century by commissioning two works by Matisse, *The Dance* and *Music*, works that were milestones in the history of European art. Finally, Shchukin followed Picasso's career right through to cubism and by 1914 had the world's finest collection of paintings by this artist.

After tragic deaths in his family, Shchukin willed his collection to the Tretyakov Gallery in Moscow but looked to the present by opening his home, free of charge, to the public every Sunday morning. His home became a museum and university to young Russian artists such as Kasimir Malevich, El Lissitzky and Naum Gabo, who now had the opportunity to see the most modern works imaginable. Again, Shchukin assisted in acting as a catalyst in redirecting the course of art.

Morozov was a collector

of equal stature to Shchukin. The AGO have installed a recreation of his music room, featuring Maurice Denis' impressive series of 13 decorative panels for *The Story of Psyche*. You will notice that Morozov is a more thorough collector than Shchukin, acquiring works from each of the French art movements, and from someone like Marc Chagall who belonged to no movement at all. Witness, *The Mediterranean triptych* by Pierre Bonnard, commissioned for the top of the staircase in Morozov's mansion.

All Russian collecting came to a halt at the beginning of World War I when travel became difficult. Shchukin and Morozov's vast collections were nationalized during the Russian Revolution in 1917, and both later died in exile. Their art works were divided up between the Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg and the Pushkin Museum in Moscow, in 1948. However, it was only after the death of Stalin, in the 1950s, that their collections of modern art were 'safe' to appear in public, and in the 1960s that the collectors were given due recognition.

The title of the exhibition comes from Baudelaire's poetry cycle *Les Fleurs du*

mal. In these epic verses, he evokes a sensuous world of order and beauty nostalgically linked to a mythological golden age from the time of Virgil and Ovid. Visitors are invited to immerse themselves in dream-like landscapes and let the warmth and tranquility of the colours wash over them. Experience these idyllic evocations as

they would have done in their Moscow setting and you too will be able to appreciate how these would warm the hearts of the northern viewer, especially as our own temperatures drop below zero.

The exhibition runs in Toronto until January 5, 2002 and will open in Montreal in February, 2003.

Good advice

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Soup to Nuts

Donna Karlin

Donna's Mandelbroit with White Chocolate, Orange and Pecans

This mandelbroit is very easy to make, but be careful! It's addictive and is too easy to "inhale!" I am always asked for this recipe and would love to share it with you.

- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup vegetable oil (not olive)
- 3 eggs
- 2 tsp baking powder
- 3 to 3 1/2 cups flour
- 2 tsp orange juice
- 2 tsp finely grated orange rind
- 1/3 cup chopped pecans

1 cup (or more if desired) white chocolate chips
Combine sugar, oil, eggs, orange juice, baking powder, flour and orange rind in this order in processor and process until it forms a soft dough. Add chopped pecans and white chocolate chips by kneading into the soft dough until well distributed. (Hint: I press the dough down on a flat surface, mix the pecans and white chocolate chips together, sprinkle them evenly over the dough then roll up, knead a couple of times and they're well distributed.) Cut into 3 or 4 equal logs, depending on the size you like them. I prefer to cut the dough into 4 equal pieces, then roll like a snake into logs, transfer to 2 foil lined lightly greased cookie sheets (2 logs per sheet) then press down with my fingers to flatten slightly. Sprinkle with a bit of granulated sugar. Bake at 350° for about 20 to 25 minutes until golden brown. Cut on the diagonal into slices, place back on the cookie sheet and back in the oven for about 15 minutes to dry. If not dry enough, turn heat off and return to oven for another 5 to 10 minutes. Cool completely then store airtight.

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A parting gift: my most requested recipes

After 15 years of doing my column "From Soup To Nuts" it's time say goodbye and pass the 'chef's hat' on to someone else. It's been a wonderful 15

years and I very much appreciate all the feedback I've received.

For my last column I thought I'd include a few of my most requested

recipes that haven't yet made it into the paper.

I wish you many more years of culinary delights!

New York Cheesecake

This is as simple as it gets, but is, in my opinion, the best of all cheesecakes. It melts in your mouth, teases your palate with a hint of citrus and isn't too sweet. And before you wonder, no, I didn't make a mistake when I put in two amounts of sour cream at the end of the recipe. It's meant to be made exactly this way. This cake goes a long way to serve a large crowd and even though it's rich, a small piece gives a huge amount of flavour.

Crust:

- 2 cups graham cracker crumbs
- 1/2 cup melted butter

Filling:

- 39 oz cream cheese
- 1 1/8 cup sugar
- 2 2/3 tsp flour
- 6 eggs
- Scant 1/2 cup whipping cream
- 1 1/4 tsp grated orange peel
- 1 1/4 tsp grated lemon rind
- 1 1/4 tsp pure vanilla extract
- 1 1/4 cup sour cream
- 2 1/2 tsp sugar
- 2/3 tsp pure vanilla extract

Topping:

- 1 1/4 cup sour cream
- 1 1/4 tsp sugar
- 1 1/4 tsp pure vanilla extract

Preheat oven to 350°.

For Crust: Mix graham crumbs and melted butter very well and press into the bottom of a 10" springform pan and chill in freezer.

For Filling: Beat cream cheese with sugar and flour until smooth. Add eggs, one at a time beating well after each addition. Add whipping cream, grated peel and beat to combine. Add vanilla and pour mixture over crust. Bake at 350° for 20 minutes, then lower heat to 200° and bake for 1 1/2 hours. Combine the first amount of sour cream, sugar and vanilla and mix well. Pour over top and bake 15 minutes more. Remove from oven and cut around sides of cheesecake with a sharp knife. Raise heat back to 350°.

For Topping: Mix the second amount of sour cream, sugar and vanilla and spread over cheesecake. Bake at 350° for 15 minutes more. Cool with oven door propped open for about 30 minutes then remove and cool on wire rack. Chill uncovered.

Mandarin Chocolate Collee Cake

For this cake I find the flavour is best when I use freshly squeezed orange juice. If you don't want to go to the trouble, then buy a small container of juice NOT from concentrate with a lot of pulp in it. Every time I make this cake I'm asked not only for the recipe but also for the leftovers!

Cake:

- 2 large eggs, room temperature
- 1 cup fresh orange juice
- 2 tsp vanilla
- 3 cups flour
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1 tsp salt
- 1/3 cup plus 5 tbsp chilled unsalted butter cut into small pieces

- 2 - 11 oz. tins mandarin orange segments, drained
- 1 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips

Topping:

- 1 cup sweetened flaked coconut
- 1/3 cup granulated sugar
- 2 tsp unsalted butter, melted

Preheat oven to 375°. Grease and flour a 10" tube pan. Shake out excess flour. In a measuring cup, combine the eggs, orange juice and vanilla. In a large bowl stir together the flour, sugar, baking powder, baking soda and salt. In processor, place the flour mixture. Add butter and process until the consistency of coarse meal. Pour in egg mixture and process just until moistened. Turn mixture into bowl. Fold in mandarin oranges and chocolate chips with a rubber spatula. Pour into prepared pan and smooth top. In a medium bowl, combine all topping ingredients. Sprinkle over the cake batter. Bake the cake for 40-45 minutes or until tester inserted in the centre comes out with a few moist crumbs clinging to it. Cool completely on a wire rack. Run a sharp knife around the sides and tube and gently invert onto a baking sheet. Reinvert onto rack and cool completely. Serves approximately 12. Freezes well.



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Kid Lit

Deanna Silverman

In the twelve years I have been reviewing Jewish content Kid Lit I have lost count of the many fresh versions of the biblical story of Noah's Ark that have crossed my desk. The latest twists and turns on that standby classic add playful details of day-to-day life aboard ship.

The Animals and the Ark

By Karla Kuskin

Illustrated by Michael Grejniec

Atheneum Books for Young Readers 2002

Unpaged. Ages 3 - 8

In 1957 a truly exceptional poet, Karla Kuskin, wrote a sparkling, raucous poem, *The Animals and the Ark*. I don't know if it appeared in picture book format back then but I can assure you that after all this time it continues to shine as brilliantly as the day it was finished.

Told from the animal's point of view, with no reference to God, the poem details the building of the ark, the in-gathering and loading of the animals, and the onset of the rain. At first all is well aboard ship. But as the rain continues to fall day after day after day, the animals get bored, restless, uncomfortable, and dangerously close to rebellious.

Happily, however, "when the fighting and crying were awful and fearful and all the small animals seemed to be fearful, when Noah was helpless and so was his crew, at precisely that moment ... the sun broke through."

Hurrah for Karla Kuskin's wit and celebration of words! And hurrah for Michael Grejniec's zestful, multidimensional

Twists and turns on Noah's Ark

watercolour illustrations! By the way, the pages toward the end of the book are not thicker. They are cleverly conceived fold-outs that reinforce the notion of the animals' growing unrest. *The Animals and the Ark* belongs on every child's book shelf.

The Littlest Pair

By Sylvia Rouss

Illustrations by Holly Hannon

Pitsopany Press 2001

Unpaged. Ages 3-6

Continuing with her "littlest" theme first encountered in the Pesach story *The Littlest Frog*, Sylvia Rouss has written a rollicking rhyming tale about *The Littlest Pair* to board Noah's Ark. It won the 2002 Storytelling World Award.

One look at the pair of termites politely standing in line to board the wooden boat and the other animals panic. Noah, however, has faith in the termites' promise that they would never munch on the ark.

As soon as the animals have climbed aboard, the rain begins to fall. The wooden decks become slippery. Aardvarks, horses, elephants and all tumble into each other like bowling pins hit with a strike. Will life aboard the ark be one nasty fall after another?

Not if *The Littlest Pair* have their way. "We can make sawdust to give you some traction. Just say the word and we'll spring into action." Job done using leftover wood of course, the termites graciously accept the apologies and thanks of the other animals.

Holly Hannon's expressive full colour illustrations add just the right touch of havoc, sadness, and fun to this Noah's Ark lesson in not rushing to hasty judgments, helping others, and getting along.

Annie's Ark

By Lesley Harker

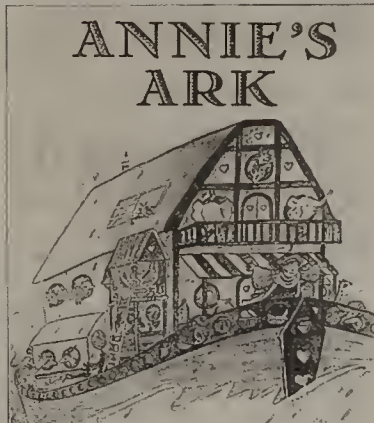
The Chicken House/Scholastic Inc. 2002

Unpaged. Ages 3-6

The charming new twist author/illustrator Lesley Harker brings to her retelling is found in its title, *Annie's Ark*. This is a child-centred story of daily life aboard the Ark as told by Annie, Noah's hobnail boot wearing granddaughter.

Annie, the family's little helper, is quick to do whatever is requested of her: feeding the llamas, rocking the lambs to sleep, untangling the snakes from Grandmas knitting wool, etc. But she is rather tired of all the work, the cramped space, and especially the water sloshing around in her hobnail boots.

One day Annie looks out the porthole and sees a little



From *Annie's Ark*

brightness. The rain is stopping. Granddaddy Noah sends a dove to search for life. It comes back with a leaf in its mouth. And when the rainbow appears, Annie knows it is "a present ... just for me."

Harker's playful full colour illustrations are the extra element of creativity that makes *Annie's Ark* a pore-over book. Love, caring, curiosity, and fun radiate from every page. Young readers will be particularly amused by the antics of the mice. They appear in most of the pictures and have a game plan of their own.



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Continued on page 25

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Lotte and Dave Molot on their 60th wedding anniversary and on Owe's special birthday by Gloria Krugel and Leon Gluzman.

Mazel Tov to Dave Molot on his special birthday by Barbara Sugaman and Syd Kronick, Roberta and Jane and families.

Mazel Tov to Lotte and Dave Molot on their 60th wedding anniversary by Barbara Sugaman and Syd Kronick, Roberta and Jane and families.
In memory of Morris Cantor by Lotte and Dave Molot.

KURT AND JOAN DRLIK FAMILY FUND

In memory of:
Morris Cantor by Julie, Jeff, Neil and Gary Fine.

D'SCAR AND NINA PETIGORSKY FAMILY

MEMORIAL FUND
In observance of the Yahrzeit of:
Ann Petigorsky, a dear sister by Lena Schechter.

JACK AND MIRIAM PLEET ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazel Tov to:
Dundie Sachs on her special birthday by Jack and Miriam Pleet.

NORMAN AND EVELYN POTECHIN

ENDOWMENT FUND
R'huah sh'leimah to:
Hana Bronstein by Evelyn and Norman Potechin.

RABBI MAIMONIDES JEWISH CONTINUITY FUND

With appreciation to:
Rabbi and Mrs. Botnick by Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Caylak.

SARAH AND MOE RESNICK ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:
Brad Shinder by Penny and Gordon Resnick and family; and by Marjorie and Lou Goldmaker and family.
Morris Cantor by Penny and Gordon Resnick and family.

GOLDIE AND ALBERT RIVERS

ENDOWMENT FUND
In memory of:
Mollie Appel's brother by Goldie Rivers.

FLORENCE AND GDALYAH ROSENFIELD

ENDOWMENT FUND
In memory of:
Bernard Slatt by Florence and Gdalyah Rosenfield.

SAMUEL AND RUTH ROTHMAN MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of:
Saul Morowicz by Susan and Stephen Rothman, Bram, Drew and Joel.

ANNE AND IRVING SABRAN MEMORIAL FUND

Wishing continued good health to:
Iris Finkelstein by Sandra Fishbain and Hermie Halpern.
In memory of:
Herb Finkelstein's father by Sandra Fishbain and Hermie Halpern.

BEN-AMI AND ROSLYN SANDERS

MEMORIAL FUND
In memory of:
Bill Shetren by Greg and Tani Sanders.

GABY SASSOON FOR VICTIMS OF TERROR IN ISRAEL

MEMORIAL FUND
Best wishes to:
Lynda Wakler on her special birthday by Marie and Howard Levine and family.
Gillie Vered on his 50th birthday by Marie and Howard Levine and family.

HARRY AND FRANCES SAXE ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:
Zahava Atlas by Carole and Norman Zagerman and Andrea Aron.

HERMINA SCHACHNOW MEMORIAL FUND

Mazel Tov to:
Charles Schachnow on his 40th birthday by aunt Anne and uncle Arnie May and family; and by Mitchell Bellman and Nicola Hamer and family.

SYD AND SHIRLEY SCHECTER

ENDOWMENT FUND
In observance of the Yahrzeit of:
Rebecca Gelman, a dear sister by Syd Schechter.
Sadie Cohn, a dear sister by Syd Schechter.
Eliaser Schechter, dear father by Syd Schechter.

AL AND BETTY SEGAL MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of:
Hyman Zygler by Shelley and Martin Goldenberg and family.

ABRAHAM AND MARY SHAFFER MEMORIAL FUND

In observance of the Yahrzeit of:
Abraham Shaffer, a dear father by Sheldon and Sonia Shaffer.

Continued on page 26



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ABRAHAM AND NELLIE SHAPIRO MEMORIAL FUND

Mazel Tov to:
Herb Brown on being the recipient of the Queen's Jubilee Medal by Carol-Sue and Jack Shapiro.

SYLVIA AND HARRY SHERMAN MEMORIAL FUND

Mazel Tov to:
Adina Leah Sherman on her Bat Mitzvah by uncle Louis Sherman.

JACK AND LINDA SMITH ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazel Tov to:
Linda Smith on her special birthday by Clair and Julius Krantzberg.

LAURA AND GORDON SPERGER ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazel Tov to:
Dave and Lotte Melol on their 60th wedding anniversary and to Dave on his special birthday by Laura and Gordon Sperger.

WILLIAM "BILL" STERNBERG MEMORIAL FUND

Mazel Tov to:
Marcia and Charles Rak on their marriage by Laya and Ted Jacobsen.
Myke Colbert on his recent promotion by Laya and Ted Jacobsen.

MAX AND PHYLLIS STERNTHAL FAMILY FUND

In memory of:
Ted Levine by Phyllis and Max Sternthal.

JAY B. TALLER MEMORIAL FUND

Mazel Tov to:
Lynda Walker on her special birthday by Marian and

Larry Dunkelman.

CLAIRE AND SAM TANNER MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of:
Meyer Karon by Eli and Sandra Hoffman.

THE TARANTOUR FAMILY FUND

Best wishes to:
Ann Lazear on her birthday by Thelma Tarantour.

GAIL AND STEPHEN VICTOR ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:
Albert Rivers by Sandy Marchello.
Morris Cantor by Sandy Marchello.

GILAD, ARNIE AND RON VERED

ENDOWMENT FUND
Mazel Tov to:
Gillie Vered on his special birthday by Marty and Tom Davis.

HARRY AND RAE WEIDMAN MEMORIAL FUND

Mazel Tov to:
Laura Greenberg on her birthday by Roz and Myles Teller.

MIRIAM AND LOUIS WEINER ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:
Donald Clarke Wheeler by Miriam and Louis Weiner.

ROBERT WENER AND LYNNE ORECK WENER

FAMILY FUND
Mazel Tov to:
Karen Morlon on her 60th birthday by Lynne Oreck-Wener, Bobby, Taryn, Eleni and Hart Wener.

NATHAN, DAVID AND MAX ZELIKOVITZ

FAMILIES FUND
In memory of:
Morris Kantor by Sue and Ronnie Green.

PINCHAS ZUKERMAN MUSICAL EDUCATION FUND

Best wishes to:
Dr. and Mrs. Mitchell Levine in their new home by Sandra and Norman Slover.
Congratulations to:
Barbara Brockman on being the recipient of the Governor General's Award for Teaching Excellence by Norman and Myra Barwin.

B'NAI MITZVAH CLUB

JAMIE BEREZIN B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

Mazel Tov to:
Jamie Berezin on his grade 9 Visual Arts Award at Sir Robert Borden by Diane Koven, Jeremy and Zahava.
In memory of:
Morris Cantor by Shelley, Gary and Jamie Berezin.
Arthur Rudy by Shelley, Gary and Jamie Berezin.

DAVINA FINN B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

Mazel Tov to:
Gillie Vered on his special birthday by Sharon and Paul Finn.

MAX JONAH GENNIS B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

Speedy recovery to:
Helen Pollinsky by Leona and Fred Pinkus.

RYAN GOLDBERG B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

Mazel Tov to:
Eric Potechin on his 40th birthday by aunt Mary and uncle Len Potechin.

NICOLAS GREENBERG B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

Mazel Tov to:
Nicolas Greenberg and family on his Bar Mitzvah by Harvey Slack.

STACEY SAMANTHA KATZ B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

Mazel Tov to:
Rebecca Nadler on her Bat Mitzvah by Stacey Katz.
Stanley and Carole Kershman on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Zev and on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Kayla by Joni and Andy Katz.

MARSHALL ROTHMAN B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

Mazel Tov to:
Zev Kershman on his Bar Mitzvah by Marshall Rothman.
Michael Steiner on his Bar Mitzvah by Marshall Rothman.
In memory of:
Hy Ziegler by David, Ann-Lynn, Diana and Lauren Rapoport.

Contributions may be made by phoning Kayla Malloy at 798-4696 extension 274, Monday to Friday. We have voice mail. Our e-mail address is kmalay@jccottawa.com

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Global Shtetl The Jewish Internet

Saul Silverman

Usually, I begin my columns with a mini-essay to set the scene and place the websites in context. For today's topic, I'm cut to the chase – almost. For those who want to know about Jewish humour, I recommend two surveys that are better than anything that I could write on the topic.

Both cover the history and contemporary state of Jewish humour and ask the question, "Are Jews still funny?" The first is an essay by Lawrence J. Epstein, in *Moment* magazine (<http://www.momentmag.com/features/feat1.html>). The second, by Arie Kaplan, appears in *Reform Judaism* (<http://uahcweb.org/rjmag/1101ak.html>). The subtext of both is that they reflect Freud's analysis that Jewish wit is based on revealing self-criticism, the obverse of the Jewish tradition of study in order to improve ethical behaviour.

Enough of the serious stuff. Now, let's get down to business.

General collections of Jewish jokes

Selecting humour is a minefield: humour is based on surprise and shock, and what one person finds funny another finds offensive (Mel Brooks: "When I cut my finger, that's tragedy. When someone else falls into a manhole, that's comedy"). Collections of jokes are like hastily constructed smor-

Jewish humour: a laughing matter

gasbords: browse them, taste things, collect and retell what you like, and forget the rest. The general collections I have chosen (three, out of about 30 I sampled) pass the guffaw test.

The most comprehensive site seems to be Yahoo's Jewish Humour group (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/jewish-jokes>). This website is based on an e-mail list. This is a moderated list, with submissions screened by an editor; there is a stern warning that "tasteless jokes will NOT be approved," but the editor does not appear to be a fanatic. My own preference is to use the website rather than subscribing to the e-mail service; it is easier to browse for funny items. On the website, selections are grouped together every week; the latest that I looked at was dated November 17.

Lori's Mishmash Jewish Humour is a well organized topical website (<http://www.geocities.com/CollegePark/6174/h-jewish.html>). Jokes are indexed alphabetically by key words; you can access them by clicking on the main A-Z index in the left-hand frame. There is a separate link for Jewish holidays containing both humorous and other material. Finally, the site has a good search engine that produces better results than Yahoo. Lori's search engine retrieves specific separate jokes; Yahoo's only retrieves the various weekly groupings, which contain jokes on a topic, so you have to use your computer's "Find" utility to search the text. You might want to do this right from the start.

Harry Leichter's Jewish Humour Site (<http://www.harut.com/jhumour/link.htm>) starts out a bit like the Yahoo site (groups of jokes which have to be browsed to find some-

thing) but has a wealth of supplemental material, including links to other Jewish humour sites, such as one to the Dry Bones cartoon series (many cartoons are funnier if you have a sense of Israeli politics – otherwise, some may be incomprehensible).

Some other Jewish humour sites

The general websites provide a wide range of Jewish jokes. I noted two other types of sites that are more specialized. There are some sites that are more traditional, offered by religiously affiliated organizations. One is the Ahavat Israel site's Jewish humour page (<http://www.ahavat-israel.com/ahavat-humour/index.asp>). This is a set of links to about fifty specific jokes. Some are versions of traditional stories (see "Four Rabbis," for example); others are efforts at new humour in a traditional framework (e.g., "Jewish Origin of High Tech"); and some are simply a good kibitz (e.g., "The Jewish Knight", a story that has been going the rounds for a few years).

Finally, much Jewish humour consists of ironic comment on the events of the day. Humour is a way of coping, like the song from *The King and I*, "Whenever I Am Afraid." A site along these lines, Good for the Jews, at <http://www.goodforthejews.com>, combines stories from the media that are both tragic and absurd, with contrived humour (e.g., a humour list about the rival groupings formed by states that feel slighted by being left out of the "Axis of Evil"). This site is periodically updated. The last update I saw was October 16, 2002, so there should be something new by the time you see this article.

In Appreciation

The family of the late Albert Rivers wishes to express its heartfelt gratitude for the many expressions of sympathy, compassion and friendship. The generosity to so many charitable organizations in memory of a dear husband, father, grandfather and brother Albert was so overwhelming that it would be impossible to thank you each individually. We will always remember the thoughtfulness displayed by our family, friends and our community which has been a true source of comfort at this time. Please accept this as our personal thank you.

Goldie, Cynthia, Stephen and Jason
Thelma Steinman, Eliten Goldberg and Goldie Cantor

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•Bus service from SJCC, 21 Nadolny Sachs Private
Departure - 8:20 am; Return - 4:15 pm

UPGRADED LIFTS²
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Program No.	Program (Prices include GST)	Lessons & Lifts	Bus	Rentals
1	Pee Wee Lessons (age 4+5) 1/2 Day - 10:00 am-12:00 pm	M \$140 • NM \$150	Parents must provide transportation	\$110
2	Junior 1/2 Day Lessons* (age 6-12)	M \$209 • NM \$219	\$80	\$110
3	Teen 1/2 Day Lessons* (age 13-17)	M \$249 • NM \$259	\$80	\$110
4	All-Day Instruction (age 6-17)**	M \$318 • NM \$329	\$80	\$110
5	Lifts Only (age 6-12)	M \$115 • NM \$125	\$80	\$110
6	Lifts Only (age 13-18)	M \$165 • NM \$175	\$80	\$110
7	1/2-Day Snowboarding Lessons (age 9-17)	M \$249 • NM \$259	\$80	\$110
8	All-Day Snowboarding Lessons (age 9-17)	M \$318 • NM \$329	\$80	\$110

* Morning classes. Afternoon free ski. ** Classes 10:00 - 12:00 noon and 1:00 - 3:00 pm.

Responsible bus and lunchtime supervision

Maximum of 120 spaces ONLY available in lessons. Don't be disappointed. Register now!

REGISTRATION:

Pick up your ski/snowboarding registration form at the SJCC Member & Guest Services desk or phone 798-9818, ext. 295. For more information, contact Jon Braun, Athletics and Leagues Manager, at ext. 267.

Check us. We'll make sure you're accepted. Check us. We'll make sure you're paid.
Hapoel Ski Program, Soloway Jewish Community Centre, 21 Nadolny Sachs Private, Ottawa, Ontario K2A 1R9.
Group information will be mailed to you in early January.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE:

January 6 - Edelweiss; February 3 - Teen Bus.

Rental measurements taken on January 9 at 7:00 pm, SJCC. All skiers who need rentals should be present to ensure proper fit.

REFUND POLICY:

Complete refund less administrative fee of \$10 if written notice of withdrawal received by Jon Braun by December 20, 2002. No refunds after December 21, except for medical reasons.



Program
No. 9

FOR TEENS ONLY

Hapoel Teen Ski Club Grades 9 - 13

Three Sundays
Skiing Different Hills
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DATES: February 9, 16, 23
HILLS: Mont Tremblant
Mont Ste-Marie
Edelweiss
COST: M\$200/NM\$250 (rentals not included)
Departure: 9:00 am from the SJCC

WHAT'S GOING ON

December 9 - January 19

For a detailed listing
visit www.jewishottawa.org
or www.ottawajewishbulletin.com



**MONDAY
DECEMBER 9**
SJCC PD Days, 8:30 a.m.
SJCC/Adeth Shalom presents
Author Talks with Morris Schnitzer,
7:30 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY
DECEMBER 18**
SJCC/Rembam Special Education
Series - "Homework/Study Skills
101" - A survival kit with tips &
tricks for de-stressing parents &
children by Ruth Coodin, 7:30 p.m.

**SUNDAY
DECEMBER 22**
JACS - Jewish Alcoholics, Chemi-
cally Dependent Persons and Sig-
nificant Others, location varies, call -
282-0249 or email ottawa@jacs.ca.

**MONDAY
DECEMBER 23**
SJCC Winter Camp Wonderland,
8:30 a.m. Also on December 24, 27,
30, 31 and January 2, 3.

**TUESDAY
DECEMBER 24**
Matzoball Singles Party, MTL&Co.,
4749 William Street, 8:00 p.m.

**SUNDAY
JANUARY 5**
JACS - Jewish Alcoholics, Chemi-
cally Dependent Persons and Sig-
nificant Others, location varies, call -
282-0249 or email ottawa@jacs.ca.
The Vered Israel Cultural & Educa-
tional program presents Israeli
House, 7:30 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY
JANUARY 8**
AJASO+ Registration Day, 1:00 -
5:00 p.m.

**SUNDAY
JANUARY 12**
Music in the time of the Bible with
Professor Joshua Jacobson, Tem-
ple Israel, 1301 Prince of Wales Drive,
10:00 a.m.
SJCC Tu B'Shevat Celebration, 1:00
p.m.

**WEDNESDAY
JANUARY 15**
SJCC/Rembam Special Education
Series - "Problem Solving
Techniques" by Neshi Rodin, 7:30
p.m.

**SUNDAY
JANUARY 19**
Chamber Choir Musica Ebraica
Concert, Temple Israel, 1301 Prince
of Wales Drive, 7:00 p.m.
The Ottawa Jewish Film Society
presents "Great Cantors in Cine-
ma" features some of the finest per-
formances of renowned cantors
during the "Golden Age of Chaz-
zanut" in the '30s and '40s. Hebrew,
Yiddish and English - end - "Israel
Rocks" - 1991 gold medal winning
documentary featuring singers,
bands and choirs performing in var-
ious styles. Hebrew with English
subtitles, 2:00 p.m.
JACS - Jewish Alcoholics, Chemi-
cally Dependent Persons and Sig-
nificant Others, location varies, call -
282-0249 or email ottawa@jacs.ca.



CANDLELIGHTING
December 13 ♦ 4:02 pm
December 20 ♦ 4:04 pm
December 27 ♦ 4:07 pm
January 3 ♦ 4:13 pm
January 10 ♦ 4:21 pm
January 17 ♦ 4:29 pm
January 24 ♦ 4:38 pm
January 31 ♦ 4:48 pm
February 7 ♦ 4:58 pm
February 14 ♦ 5:09 pm

NOT TO BE MISSED
Jewish Family Services
'FUTURES'
Matzoball Singles Party
December 24
Details: page 15
or call 722-2225, ext. 401

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Unless otherwise noted, activities take place at The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, 21 Nadolny Sachs Private

This information is taken from the community calendar maintained by the Jewish Community Campus of Ottawa Inc. Organizations which would like their events to be listed, no matter where they are to be held, should make sure they are recorded by Brenda Schaffer, calendar coordinator at 798-9818 ext. 265. We have voice mail. Accurate details must be provided and all events must be open to the Jewish public. You may fax to 798-9839 or email to bschaffer@jccottawa.com.

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Condolences are extended
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Paul Katz, Montreal
(father of Valerie Terkel)
Libby Lief
Sylvia Bodnoff Reiter
Bella Seligman, Montreal
(sister of Annetta Leighton)
May their memories
be a blessing always.

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BULLETIN DEADLINES

JANUARY 2
FOR JANUARY 20
JANUARY 15
FOR FEBRUARY 3

bulletin

Readers and advertisers are advised
that the next edition
of the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin will be published
on Monday, January 20, 2003.

The deadline date is Thursday, January 2, 2003.